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Carlo Khan

P. O. angl. 12^E



THE
A M O U R S
OF
CARLO KHAN:

INTERSPERSED WITH CURIOUS ANECDOTES AND BON
MOTS OF MANY DISTINGUISHED PERSONAGES :

PARTICULARLY

LORD VOLPONE; LORD C——D; DUKE
OF A——R; LADY OF THE OAKS; MAR-
CHIONESS OF C——N; CAPT. B——N;
MRS. R——N; EDMUND ST. OMERS; DR.
GRAHAM; DR. WILSON; MRS. MA——Y;
A YOUNG PREMIER, &c. &c.

Omnia vincit Amor & nos cedamus Amori.

L O N D O N:

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INTRODUCTION.

THE gentleman whose amorous connexions constitute the substance of the following Volume, stands in a peculiar predicament with regard to public opinion:—by one half the nation, he is looked upon as the source of innumerable calamities to his country, and his name execrated with the severest resentment; while the other part considers him as their tutelary protector, and the only man whose abilities can save the kingdom from impending ruin. Both parties, however, agree in ascribing to him those eccentric ad-

ventures, those affusions of the *belle passion*, which it is our province to relate ; and wherein we have had the strictest regard to the *mutual* confessions of both friends and foes, which in such cases must always be allowed to constitute the *truth* : His extensive intimacies naturally involve anecdotes and character of many distinguished personages, and those, we flatter ourselves, from their authenticity will increase the pleasure of our readers, and rather add to than diminish our little claim to public favour and approbation.

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A M O U R S
O F
CARLO KHAN.

CHAP. I.

Reflections on ambition—character of Lord Volpone—political anecdotes—birth of Carlo—early instance of his disposition—bon mot of Lord Cheshamfield.

AMBITION, it is probable, runs through the whole human species, and every man is more or less
B actuated

actuated by it, in proportion to the vigour of his complexion. This passion for distinction may be exerted in a thousand different ways; but the principle is the same, whether a man endeavours to gain applause by nocturnal revels and midnight frolics, heading a mob at an election, or heading a factious party against his king and country.

It cannot be doubted, but that there is as great a desire for glory in a ring of wrestlers or cudgel-players, as in a more refined competition for superiority: for no man that could avoid it, would ever suffer his head to be broken, but out of a principle of honor. This is the secret spring that pushes them forward; and the conquest they gain more than atones for the many wounds

wounds they have received in the service.

It was the opinion of a certain poet, that had not Julius Cæsar been master of the Roman empire, he might in all probability have been an excellent wrestler :

Great Julius, on the mountains bred,
A flock, perhaps, or herd had led ;
He that the world subdu'd, had been
But the best wrestler on the green.

WALLER.

This thirst for supremacy, indeed, fully displayed itself, when, in passing through a little town, he declared to his attendants, that he would rather be the *first* man in that paltry village, than the second in imperial Rome. This was something similar to the sentiment which Milton has

put into the mouth of one of his fallen angels,

Better to *reign* in hell, than *serve* in heaven.

And such seem to have been the feelings that have all along actuated the MAN, the amorous part only of whose actions we now present to the public.

Lord Volpone, the father of our hero, was a character as much distinguished as most men of his age; he launched into the world under very signal advantages; those of a good person, a good understanding, and an easy fortune. Thus equipt, he for many years led the beau monde;—he wrote, he drank, he gallanted; and in each had few equals; several of his productions in Doddsley's Collection will authenticate for the former, and his infirmities in the decline of

of life, will testify the latter. By marrying into the noble family of L—, he enriched the blood of his descendants without enlarging their fortune.

And though a life of pleasure and dissipation is common enough to men who enjoy sound health with strong passions ; yet when he applied to business he proved himself equal to any employment : for by the strength of his abilities solely, he raised himself to several high offices under the crown in the reign of his late majesty ; particularly that of secretary of war, and in the following year, secretary of state for the southern department.

He studied his great master Walpole with success ; drew from him what was useful in his ministerial capacity ; and copied him in the joyous

part of his character, which best suited his future views of gaining friends. He softened the broad-staring mirth and licentious festivity of Walpole into a conviviality more agreeable, into wit more relishing, and gaiety more palatable.

He was not the most graceful speaker, though an acute manager and discerner of a debate; he had the skill and patience to watch his time when to carry his point, and to lead the house into his opinion; and when detected in acting with impropriety, had the courage and the art to disengage himself without embarrassment.

George the Second had so often experienced Lord Volpone's abilities, as well as his constant and ready submission to his royal will, that at a very critical moment he trusted to him the
management

management of his business in the House of Commons ; and so far was his Lordship intoxicated with royal favour, that his natural caution forsook him, and he sent cards to the members of parliament, importing, that the King had entrusted “ *to his care the management of the House of Commons :*” This glaring absurdity of conduct disgusted every body ; his power was immediately lost, and he was obliged to resign his place, though his influence with his master continued as great as ever.

His art in managing elections was superior ; he knew beyond the rest of all mankind the true art of gaining votes ; and a tradesman in the Strand, who afterwards figured in Germany, and since upon the stage, as a commissary, was well rewarded for understand-
ing

ing the commands of his friend and patron upon this and other similar occasions.

The most exceptionable part of his character, was his engaging young noblemen in the practice of gaming; which was not done with a view to his own profit, but to render them subservient to the ministry, by involving them in difficulties; a custom, that, however odious, was not peculiar to Lord Volpone, but seems to have been a branch of ministerial business; to which Pelham and Anson were such true slaves, that dispatches were often brought to them at White's.

Volpone was an excellent husband, an indulgent father, and, what the world in general has little known, a man whose *charities* demonstrated that he possessed in abundance the *milk of human*

human kindness. In his person, he was of the middle size; he was like *Ulysses*,* more graceful in his seat than when he stood up; his features were strongly marked, his brow large and black; and his aspect more penetrating than pleasing.

We have been thus copious in the character of the father, from the great similarity observable in the son; in whom not only the features, but the same actuating principles may be plainly discovered; the same abilities, the same relish for convivial enjoyment; the same powerful oratory, the same acuteness of argument, but with more splendid diction, and greater elegance of expression; and we may safely add, that if he inherits all his father's talents, he also inherits all his vices.

It

* Homer, Iliad, Book III.

It was at a period when every pursuit but that of *accumulation* was given up, that Carlo Khan was born, (in January 1749 ;) and as domestic happiness is generally enjoyed more sensibly by a retrospect comparison of past follies, those leisure hours which could be spared from the toils of administration, were devoted to the attention of his family ; or as the poet very elegantly expresses it,

———To rear the tender thought,
To teach the young idea how to shoot,
And pour the fresh instruction o'er the mind.

It was a constant rule with Lord Volpone, in the education of his children, to accustom them, at a very early age, to give their opinion freely upon every subject. In consequence of this indulgence, the usual timidity of that age was not only worn off, but

but their young minds were so accustomed to reason upon general subjects, as to make them acquire almost insensibly a smattering of universal knowledge.

Many instances are told of the progress of Carlo's abilities under the influence of this licence, as well as the ridiculous embarrassments the father was sometimes thrown into from indulging it too far: one of the latter kind happened as follows:

When he was secretary of state during the former war with France, he happened to be so busy one night in sending off some dispatches of consequence, that he took them from the office to his own house, for the more careful perusal of them. Carlo, who at this time was not more than ten years of age, coming into his father's study, (where

(where he had at all times access) took up one of the papers which his father had just laid by for sealing up; and after perusing it, seemingly with great attention, said he disliked it, and instantly thrust it into the fire. Such a proceeding would be imagined too much for any father's partiality—but it proved quite otherwise with Lord Volpone; for instead of throwing himself into the least passion upon the occasion, he turned to look for the office copy, and immediately set about making out another.

The misfortunes attending the commencement of the war with France in 1756, occasioned such complaints against the ministry, that a dismissal of them unavoidably took place, by a king, who, however tenacious of his prerogative, was by no means remarkable

able for his obstinacy : yet a coalition soon followed between the heads of the old and new ministry ; that is, between Lord Volpone and the father of a present premier ; a coalition not less execrated at that day, than the late one between his son and Lord Boreas ; and in consequence of which Lord Volpone was nominated to the lucrative office of paymaster-general.

How far the censure thrown upon his conduct in this place of extraordinary emolument may be just, is not in our power to determine ; though we cannot forbear quoting an anecdote that happened at the time.

Volpone, complaining in company where Lord Chesterfield happened to be, how ill he had been treated by the city of London, in being called such opprobrious names, as the *de-*

C

faulter

faulter of unaccounted millions, and plunderer of the public money;—Chesterfield smiled, and observed, that “indeed the citizens of London were a very rude sort of people; for that they always called a toad, a toad; and every thing else by its proper name!”

C H A P. II.

Carlo is sent to Eton school—his progress in learning—in which his progress in love keeps pace.—An amour by moonlight—goes to Oxford—which he quits for a continental tour—reception at Paris—intimacy with Julia de Rochette.

TH E difference in point of time between the birth of the grandson (the subject of these pages) and the

the grandfather, makes out no less a period than *one hundred and nineteen years*; the former being born, as we observed above, in Jan. 1749,—the latter in 1630:—a circumstance somewhat extraordinary; and a space of time very prodigious for a family to be carried down no further than the third generation; which can only be accounted for by the grandfather's second marriage when he was verging on fourscore.

Though the indulgences which Carlo received under the tutorage of his father, might doubtless give the reins to his dissipations, they assisted in enlarging a good natural understanding; they gave him an early facility in public speaking, as well as in conversation; made him acquainted with the strong and weak sides of argument;

strengthened his memory, as well as shook off many boyish prejudices and puerilities.

About fourteen years of age he was sent to Eton, where though he did not prosecute his studies with either severity or perseverance, yet what he read he made his own; and was famous for composing his exercises in a style, which no other boy in his time arrived at. A very great share of liveliness and vivacity, wit, humour, and *jeu d'esprit*, threw an embellishment over his youth, which promised something uncommon. This, with an assurance which strongly bordered upon *impudence*, carried him through every difficulty; and there is an anecdote told of him while at that school, of his getting a premium for discussing a theme,

a theme, for which he never read a single line.

If at Eton he became acquainted with classic lore, at the same school too, he made some progress in *another art*; and he very soon began to realize the precepts of Ovid, and the tender sentiments of the elegant Tibullus.

One very fine evening in May, after Carlo and one of his companions had been reading some of the tenderest passages in those heart-dissolving writers, they sallied forth, a little beyond the town, probably without the intention of doing mischief, but ready to join in any that fell in their way, and observing the door of a genteel house open, they boldly entered, and stole up stairs without being perceived; when gently opening a room-door, they beheld a scene sufficient to have

excited emotions in any bosom, without the aid of poetical ideas, or the heat of youthful blood, to give them additional energy.

The moon shone full into the chamber, and a beautiful young lady, overcome by the heat, or fatigued with the toils of the day, had sunk into the arms of Morpheus. Her lily neck appeared uncovered, and seemed to heave with invitation to our adventurers : spite of precaution, their entry alarmed her, and she gave a loud shriek ; at which Carlo's companion, fearful of discovery, instantly ran down stairs, and escaped ; while, as fortune favours the bold, no one coming to her assistance, Carlo pleaded his cause so powerfully, that the nymph not only forgave the intrusion, but even permitted him to stay and enter into
chat

chat with her.—A dangerous situation for a fine girl of sixteen; at a period too when both nature, opportunity, and the love-inspiring *month*, were her enemies; when

Flush'd by the spirit of the genial year,
Now from the virgin's cheek a fresher bloom
Shoots, less and less the live carnation round;
Her lips blush deeper sweets; she breathes of youth;
The shining moisture swells into her eyes
In brighter flow; her wishing bosom heaves
With palpitations wild; kind tumults seize
Her veins, and all her yielding soul is love!

THOMPSON.

Such powerful opponents as these, backed by the eloquence of Carlo, who certainly on this occasion, spoke from his feelings, were too irresistible to be withstood; and after many vows of constancy, sighs, and amorous caresses, she granted the enjoyment of

of every pleasure which the full possession of her charms could bestow.

The live-long night was spent in extasies too great for utterance, but such as commonly attend the first taste of those dear delights for which we seem to wish to live : and they cursed the coming day, which brought a separation with its dawn.

The bedchamber that had been their scene of active pleasure, overlooked a garden, through which Carlo made his escape into the fields, where his companion had been anxiously waiting his return ; apprehensive for his safety, yet unwilling to disturb the family, lest he should interrupt that happiness which he very naturally believed had been Carlo's inducement to stay behind :—he was informed of the success, and they now hastened

hastened back into the sacred limits of the college.

'Twill readily be conceived, that if this was the first, it was by no means the last of Carlo's nocturnal rambles; for in fact, measures were so well concerted between him and his fair Betsey, that almost every night produced an interview, and a repetition of their happiness; a false key was procured for the garden-door, and by the assistance of a rolling-stone, he easily ascended to her window; and, *Ranger-like 'twas neck or nothing.*

From Eton he removed to Oxford, by the command of his father, and was forced to bid adieu to the dear companion of his softer hours. It is generally a matter of uneasiness to dissolve these first attachments of the tender passion; for the heart being
united

united by the tie of sympathetic feeling only, is insensible to the more prudent persuasions of reason and interest; and even ambition argues in vain.

He parted from his Eliza with all the assurances of faithful and unalterable love; in which, from the well-known frankness of his nature he was probably at that time sincere: but as she was removed from Eton, to a very distant part of the country, soon after Carlo went to Oxford, time, distance, and the force of novelty quickly dissipated all traces of his Eliza, from whom he received letter after letter, without deigning to reply. And in one of her epistles, which was after the discovery of the amour, handed about in the polite world, she poetically addresses herself to the ladies of Oxford,
in

in a very elegant imitation of some parts of Sappho :

“ Beware, *Oxonian* ladies ! ah, beware,
 How you receive my faithless wanderer.
 You, too, will be abus’d, if you believe
 The flattering words that he so well can give.
 For worthless as I am, there was a time
 When *Carlo* thought me worthy his esteem.
 A thousand tender things to mind I call,
 For they who truly love, remember all :
 Upon my lips with silent joy he hung,
 And snatching kisses, stopt me as I sung :
 Kisses, whose melting touch my soul did move,
 As earnest of the coming sweets of love :
 Then tender words, short sighs, and thousand charms
 Of wanton arts endear’d me to his arms ;
 Till both expiring with tumultuous joys
 A gentle faintness did our limbs surprize.”

The gloomy mansions of Oxford had few allurements to one of Carlo’s vivacity, and after spending a very little time there, he solicited his father’s permission to travel : which he readily enough obtained, and set out for the continent, impressed with the strongest ideas

ideas of the various pleasures which France and Italy had in store for him; and of the flattering distinction which his superior talents would ever procure. Nor was he by any means disappointed in his hopes; for his versatility of genius soon rendered him the favourite of every class of people; while his natural sprightliness perfectly assimilated with the *bagatelle* of the national character. The courtiers discovered in him political talents much beyond his years; in most disputes and conversations on this subjects, he was the conqueror. The present famous *Comte de Vergennes*, the French minister, was frequently his opponent, and Carlo was as usually victor.

The reputation he gained among the men, soon rendered him the admiration of the other sex, whose favours seemed

seemed to court his acceptance ; he mingled at their private entertainments, their *petits soupers*, attended their *ruelles*, and was a frequent guest at their *petites maisons* ; a phrase for which we have no equivalent in our language ; but which signifies a place, either in town or country, set apart for the entertainment of a gentleman's mistress, his friends, and their respective mistresses : an instance of sociality, in enjoyment, which perhaps no other nation in Europe can exhibit.

Among the many fair ones who sought his admiration, none seemed more justly entitled to it, than Julia de Rochette ; a lady of rank and distinction ; young and agreeable. She had had an uncommon mixture of sensibility and coquettishness in her disposition, which alternately prevailed in exciting
D and

and depressing the hopes of her lovers; and preserving her influence; but the natural impetuosity of Carlo's disposition, could ill brook with the attendance and attention necessary to gain his point, and he heroically resolved to carry by storm, where he could have few hopes of bringing to a seasonable capitulation.

C H A P. III.

Carlo's philosophical dispute with Julia on the influence of heat—conviction by ocular demonstration—experiment—Julia becomes a convert—Carlo leaves Paris.

ON one of the sultriest days that July had produced, Carlo paid a visit to Julia; he found her alone in a chamber

ber which commanded a view of the Thuilleries ; the windows were open to admit the air from the gardens, but the curtains were let down, and threw a kind of duskiness over the room, which gave it an appearance of solitude and retirement ; Julia was reposing on a sofa, in a very careless posture, and still more carelessly dressed ; her stays half unlaced, no handkerchief, a short under-petticoat, and a flight pink-silk night-gown, flowing loose, were all she had on ; her hair hung negligently down her shoulders, and the whole of her person was in that sort of disorder, which, in such situations, is a thousand times more alluring than the richest ornaments, especially when attended with the most scrupulous personal cleanliness and delicacy.

A beautiful woman in this condition would have raised emotions in Carlo's breast at any time; but the woman of his choice so exposed to his view, raised stronger tumults than he had ever before experienced; indeed no attitude could have been devised to render her more inviting; nor could any handsome woman select a disposition of her charms more adapted to make the liveliest impressions. Her petticoat concealed but a small part of lovely limbs: nor did she make the least change in her posture on the entrance of Carlo.

The ladies in France pique themselves extremely on their acquaintance with literature of every kind, especially with natural philosophy; and Julia was behind few of her sex either in natural wit or acquired accomplishments.

ments. She had attended a course of physical lectures, and frequently gave a dinner to some members of the different academies, whence she thought herself a perfect adept in the knowledge of nature. Just, therefore, as Carlo entered, and was going to tell her how greatly he was struck with her charms, she began a conversation on the dreadful heat with which she had been overpowered for many days.—He had so often rallied her on her attachment to the sciences, that she could not resist this opportunity of convincing him of her proficiency in them ; and began a long dissertation upon the effects of heat, and that lassitude it generally induces ; concluding with strong assertions of her opinion, “ that there was not a man that very day, who would not find himself totally im-

potent in the arms of the finest woman in the world, though he had loved her ever so passionately !”

At that very moment Carlo could have given the most irrefragable contradiction to what she asserted ; yet whatever advantages he had over her, he was content with modestly saying, that he imagined she might be mistaken. His assumed modesty, and the gentleness of his voice, persuaded her that he had no *good reason* to be of a contrary opinion.

Animated with this notion she assumed fresh courage, and confidently told him that she was sure of what she advanced ; and that the first philosophers were of the same opinion : to this he smartly answered,—“ it might happen those great men, whose authority she relied upon, were determined
only

only from *their* own experience ; but, for *his part*, he ventured to appeal from their judgment."—A most mortifying farcasm upon poor philosophy !

Julia, however, growing still more confident in her opinion ; and perhaps having had some *secret* experience on the subject, which she was not willing to acknowledge, told him, with an air of disdain and vanity, that shocked *even* Carlo, that if there were a man in the world, on whom heat had not the effect she attributed to it, such man must in reality be a *monster*. Carlo, who had felt himself that *monster* for about a quarter of an hour, and yet did not think himself a *very rare one*, was astonished she should prize a quality so much, that he made so little account of ; but unwilling to make any indecent use of it against her, answered

swered her in the same humble tone, that he did not think any man who had *reasons within himself* to be of a different opinion, ought to value himself much more for it.

Julia replied, (in a manner that let him easily see how far she thought *him* from being furnished with such strong proofs against her system) that he was one of those very obstinate people who take a pleasure in disputing against self-evident truths, and that too against their own *internal conviction*. Carlo now told her, that miracles were not impossible; but he saw her so firmly determined to admit none of that sort, that he was at last obliged to convince her by *ocular demonstration*, that philosophers were not always in the right.

Julia

Julia was struck dumb with the *magnitude of the proof*; and never was the pride of philosophy so deeply humbled; while either from resentment or prejudice, reproaches succeeded to her confusion. Without being alarmed at them, Carlo took the liberty of representing to her, that she had obliged him, by admitting none of his other arguments, to have recourse to a demonstration, which must reduce her to silence, and prove that there is no general rule without an exception: He added, that he hoped for the honor of philosophy, and fully to convince her of her mistake, she would permit him *to push the experiment as far as it would go*; for it would be a disgrace to her to confess herself overcome, while as yet there were only *appearances* against her, which might
not

not be able to support a proof of a *certain nature*.

The fear of being conquered too hastily, the wishes of humbling Carlo in her turn, the *oddness of the thing*, the opportunity, the proof already offered, which no contradiction could weaken, and more than all, an earnest desire of instruction, got the better of those vain scruples that yet withheld her. A tender sigh; that flushing in the face which desire and the expectation of pleasure constantly produces; and her eyes sparkling with the liveliest passion, opposed the air of severity she had assumed; and every thing, in short, told Carlo, that she wanted nothing so much as to be *practically* convinced of her error; at the same time, a sort of disdain she preserved, intimated that he

he should not easily get the better of her obstinacy.

That he might not be interrupted in the important lessons he was about to give, he fastened the door, and returned, impatient to demonstrate to her the falsehood of her opinion. And indeed, it required all Carlo's rhetoric, and repeated applications of the *argumentum ad fœminam* to convince his fair antagonist; who at last, however, declared her conversion, and that she was undeceived to the fullest conviction of all her feelings.

Tho' Julia was not really a philosopher, she was nevertheless a very amiable woman; and Carlo was extremely desirous that the course he had begun with her, should not be confined to that day; he therefore pressed her very warmly to engage herself as his pupil;

pupil; and more influenced by gratitude for the pains he had taken to *instruct* her, than chagrined at having been detected in an error, she listened to his proposals, and so long as Carlo continued in Paris, she was the constant altar at which he paid his amorous devotions.

Carlo remained in France till the approach of winter, enjoying every pleasure which that elegant nation could procure; and who exerted their powers to be agreeable to a youth whose talents, wit, spirit, and accomplishments deservedly rendered him their favourite: he formed many friendships which are still continued; particularly with *Vergennes*; nor did he leave his Julia till he had effectually removed her doubts on the manner in which *cold* as well as *heat* might operate!

rate; by convincing her that in the extremes of either he was perfectly able to be the practical philosopher.

C H A P. IV.

Carlo pursues his tour to Italy—History of Clementina—her amour with Carlo—he returns to England.

CARLO on leaving Paris directed his route towards Chamberry, in order to cross the Alps, in his progress to the Italian states. But without attending minutely to the events of his journey, which were probably nothing more than the ordinary occurrences of *most* travellers through this part of Europe, (however entertaining to speculative and reflecting men) we hasten
E to

to the first *recorded* intimacy which he made in that land of love and gallantry.

History of CLEMENTINA.

THE father of Clementina was of the first rank in Venice; and she being his only child, and heir to a prodigious fortune, no expence was spared upon her education; at the age of sixteen, she was perhaps one of the greatest beauties in that city, and as much esteemed for her wit, lively conversation and affability, as for all the polite acquired accomplishments.

In the midst of a life of gaiety and magnificence, for which no city in Europe is more remarkable than Venice,

nice, not one of the crowd of admirers had hitherto been able to make the least impression upon her heart, and when at last she gave her hand to the Count of Pilozzi, it was less to gratify her own inclination, than the wishes of her parents, whose sole happiness, they declared, depended on seeing her the wife of some noble lord, whose quality and accomplishments might reward her virtue and filial obedience.

The immense wealth which the Count received with her, joined to his own extensive fortune, enabled him to gratify the ambition and elegance of his taste, in the expensive preparations which he made upon the occasion of his marriage ; and his unbounded generosity to Clementina, would have claimed at all events her *gratitude*, though he had never engaged her

love. But of this distinction she was totally ignorant; and they both seemed perfectly convinced that her esteem for him proceeded from the tenderest and purest passion. And they had been married about a year, which was spent in this happy indifference and tranquillity, when Carlo, in the course of his travels arrived at Venice.

At that time the national character of Britain stood high in every part of the world, and the very name of *Englishman* was certain to procure respect and credit: Aided by this idea, as well as furnished to every part with recommendations the most powerful from the Court of France, Carlo found a welcome reception wherever he went; and as Count Pilozzi was remarkably fond of the English, Carlo's arrival was no sooner announced, than he immediately

mediately waited on him, and in a few days after engaged him to an entertainment with some of the English nobility. He accordingly went, and the whole company were charmed with his wit, sprightliness, and good humour.—As Clementina had learned to speak English from her infancy, and Carlo could not speak Italian with the fluency he wished—with the greatest politeness he intreated she would be his interpreter ; he made the request with such a turn of humour and gallantry, towards some ladies that were present, as highly diverted them,—and but *too much* pleased Clementina.

It was just at this time that the Carnival began at Venice, and Carlo being engaged at a masquerade with Count Pilozzi and Clementina, he requested she would let him know her

dress, and continue to him the honour of being his interpreter, which, together with letting him into the customs and intrigues of Venice, would confer the highest obligations on him. The Count and his lady went thither at the usual time, but Carlo was not to be seen in the rooms; he made his appearance, however, soon afterwards, in the character of an English sailor, which he filled with so much wit, and supported with so much vivacity during the whole evening, that the company, and particularly the ladies were in raptures with him; and as he was frequently seen with Count Pilozzi, he was immediately supposed to be a person of quality; and the attention of the company was upon him wherever he moved.

Intrigue,

Intrigue, gallantry and every kind of pleasures are carried to the highest degree during the Venetian carnivals, where the *belles passions* are managed with much less delicacy and discretion than in some other countries; it was therefore soon reported and believed, that Clementina had adopted Carlo for her *Cicisbeo*.

Count Pilozzi had indeed appointed one of this order to attend Clementina, a young nobleman of distinction, not ungenteel in his person, but haughty, passionate, and revengeful; and he of course attended Clementina at the ball, and seemed very uneasy at the freedom between her and Carlo; for as they frequently conversed in English, a language he was unacquainted with, jealousy naturally construed every word
that

that passed into a declaration of love, or a private assignation.

As the Cicisbeo's constant attendance was not so extremely agreeable to Clementina, she took a particular pleasure in mortifying him, and for that reason indulged many little airs and compliments to Carlo, without suspecting the pleasure she took in his company and conversation proceeded from any other cause than the high fallies of wit and humour which perpetually flowed from him, and with which every other person appeared as much delighted as herself.

A few evenings afterwards as Clementina was sitting in her box at the opera, she perceived Carlo enter, and immediately made a signal with her fan for him to go into her box; this exasperated the Cicisbeo so extremely, that

that on Carlo's approach, he withdrew to the mutual satisfaction of the parties. Carlo perceived the Cicisbeo's displeasure, and enquired the reason, which Clementina readily answered. And whether Carlo put that construction upon this information which men of gallantry and intrigue naturally do, on intimations of such a kind, or whether he went prepared to make a formal declaration of his passion, but they had not been half an hour together in the box, when he convinced her, that he had engaged her heart too much in his favour, and that, he was a most artful and enterprising seducer. He painted the absurdity of her being under so mean a character, who was only a spy on her actions; the inequality of her husband's years, and the customs of the ladies of rank, in such a sophistical

tical manner, as entirely subdued her understanding, and he pressed her to a private interview with so much ardour, that she was unable to resist, but the next evening sent one of her women to him, to concert measures for their meeting.

This woman was perfectly mistress of the business of intrigue, and as Carlo was as bountiful as he was enterprising, the confidante returned in raptures with the plan for an assignation that very night, in lodgings which they had taken for the purpose, in a genteel retired neighbourhood, where they accordingly met, and Clementina spent a night of pleasure in the arms of her accomplished English lover.

From that moment the embraces of Pilozzi became odious to Clementina,

noe

nor could she almost behave to him with civility, while she positively insisted that the Cicisbeo should be discharged from his attendance on her; a request that, however unaccountable, was instantly complied with by the indulgent husband: and she now enjoyed every opportunity she could wish of meeting Carlo at the place of assignation—an opportunity which she never neglected.

As dismissal from his employment was one of the greatest insults that could be offered to the Cicisbeo, revenge instantly took possession of the haughty attendant; and intrigue being half the business of the Venetian youths, he soon concerted his plans so effectually, that not an action or expression of Clementina's escaped his knowledge; and even too the place of
private

private meeting was unfortunately discovered.

Carlo, being one evening somewhat later than usual in his appointment, when just as he came within a few paces of the house, was suddenly attacked by a stranger, cloaked and masqued, who drew his sword, and made a dreadful push at him; though he soon received the reward of his treachery, and by the superiority of Carlo's skill, was laid an expiring victim at his feet.—When his disguise was torn off, he proved to be the Cicisbeo, whose revenge was thus retaliated upon himself.—Clementina, anxious for the coming of Carlo, had been at the window when the villain made his attempt upon the life of her lover, but instantly fainted, and remained insensible till by the assistance of her attendant she reached her own house.

The

The death of a man of such distinction, was an event which Carlo thought it by no means prudent to wait the consequence of; and having therefore made his escape from this fatal house, he ordered his servants to make up his baggage, and instantly go in quest of the captain of an English ship, whom he had formerly known, and whom with some difficulty he persuaded to set sail immediately with him for Genoa.

The *vive la bagatelle* of France and Italy had hitherto agreed so well with Carlo's natural vivacity, that he spent a much longer time than was either useful to himself, or agreeable to his father. The repeated intreaties, and perhaps commands of the latter, at last brought him home; though not before he was obliged to pay a bill

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drawn

drawn on him by his son, from Naples, for sixteen hundred pounds.

CH A P. V.

Carlo commences macaroni and gamester—becomes statesman—his oratorical character—exhausts his finances—anecdotes and bon mots.

WHATEVER observations our hero might have made in his grand continental tour, like many of his countrymen, he gleaned a number of foibles, of which *dress* and *gaming* were the most conspicuous. To the former indeed he sacrificed to a degree very uncommon in this country; though probably he was rather induced to it by the strong desire to take the lead even in folly.

Lord

Lord C——le at that period stood the formost in the macaroni tribe ; a character which nature had amply qualified him to fulfil. Carlo, though as every one may preceive, many removes from the *petit maitre* tribe, and very far from being, in his person at least, from being what Shakespeare calls,

“ Formed to make women false,”

yet so extravagantly did he enter into the decorations of it, as to enlarge the circle of the *ton* upon his own plan. To him the macaronish world are indebted for many improvements, wherein he took the lead ; the enormous *queue*, the *bouquet*, as large as a beehive, bedecked with which, and followed by two strapping Irish chairmen, dressed upon their master's model, he used to strut up and down St. James's and the Mall :

and among the rest, to the renovation of a fashion which had been laid aside since the beginning of the present century—*red-heel'd shoes*;—by appearing in which in a birth-day at court, and afterwards in the public walks; he was soon followed by all the imitating devotees of modern puppyism.

Though the morning of life is generally too much engaged in trifles to admit of strong impressions; nor is the character of business an object with the man of pleasure——however seldom these meet, yet they are here united; and though like envious racers they are continually crossing and jostling each other in the pursuit, the zeal of either seems increased in proportion to the degree of opposition.

Lord Volpone introduced Carlo into the great senate of the nation at a
time

time when he was not, from his age, qualified to be a member of that honourable house; for he was elected for a borough in Suffex in 1768, and was suffered to speak in an interesting debate the following winter, though still a minor. But the force of his connections readily stifled so minute an enquiry; especially as he ranged himself on the side of the ministers, who found him fully of an age to answer all the purposes of his station. But the case was altered in a similar situation in Walpole's time, when a young member, who displayed great abilities in a speech *against* that minister was silenced by him, and obliged to leave the house and go abroad, till he became of age.

We believe it was upon the occasion of Mr. Wilkes's petition to be released

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from

from the King's Bench, in order to attend his duty in the senate, that Carlo first discovered his talents for public speaking; in which he discovered such power and fluency as surprized the oldest members in the house; and he of course acquired a reputation, which in so peculiar a situation as the first effort in the presence of so numerous a body, sets a seal upon a character, and marks it above those benches of inanity, that gaping audience—content to listen to the eloquence of others.

His reputation as a senator, at least as an orator, has been gained not by an attentive study of facts, by a continual application to understand every point which might become the subject of debate, but from a very quick and ready apprehension. The moment a debate is started, whether upon a riot
in

in Dublin or a canal in Yorkshire, no matter how remote from his enquiries, his studies, or his amusements, he immediately sees the weak part of the argument, and throws it into such a light as best suits his purpose; and this he performs with a quickness of conception, which fully answers many of the purposes of a complete investigation.

He is very warm, and frequently personal in his disputes, which some have attributed to the fertility of his imagination, that supplies him with words and ideas so fast, he has not time to arrange them methodically, nor to deliver them coolly. His delivery is so rapid, that it sometimes almost choaks him; and for want of keeping time, he loses the best graces of

of elocution, nor is there any modulation in his voice.

This extraordinary ability of Carlo's has proved a matter of surprize to many person, who have been unable to reconcile his going immediately from hazard to the House, and shining there beyond those who had studied the question of debate; whereas study would rather obstruct than facilitate Carlo's eloquence. A quick and intuitive glance at an absurdity, or a false argument, is of more power with him than a month's study.

It was expected by many of his friends, on his becoming a man of public business, that he would necessarily give up his attention to *macaronism*, as well as the gaming table; but in both they were disappointed: for though he made the most respectable figure

figure in the senate, it only divided with his pleasures: and often has the morning shone upon his debauch, while the noon of the same day found him debating on the liberties of his country.

To wean him from these excesses, if possible, was the father's constant endeavour, and he accordingly procured for him the appointment of one of the nautical Lords of this country. But in vain can the strongest efforts of art combat with our natural propensities: the business of this new office was to be attended to,—and so was the *business* at Brookes's; and many a dispatch written at the A—y-house, was signed in St. James's-street,—with the cards in the one hand, and the pen in the other.

Like

Like most beginners in the science of gambling, he soon fell a sacrifice to the superior arts of the *black-legged* gentry, who finding him a *well-feathered pigeon*, resolved to pluck him accordingly; and exclusive of his father's allowance, as well as his place in the A——y, he very soon become 20,000*l.* worse than nothing. With much entreaty, and many promises of amendment, he obtained the above sum from his father to pay his debts; and he accordingly summoned all his creditors to meet him the ensuing morning, that he might discharge their bills: unluckily, however, in the evening in which he received the money, he repaired to Almack's, and shewed the 20,000*l.* which was all in bank notes, to George S——n, informing him at the same time for what purpose he

he

He had received that sum of his father. George laid him a considerable bet, *he would not take a farthing of it out of the house again.* Carlo was only a looker on for some time; but being at length elevated with liquor, he began to *shake his elbow*; and in a few hours lost the whole sum, as George had predicted.

The staunch friendship of Lord Boreas, was certainly assisting to gain Carlo the honourable station we have mentioned; the attachment of the noble lord increased every session, and he boasted of the political abilities of his friend, as doing honour and adding strength to any administration. For *very obvious reasons*, Carlo gave up his station in the Ad—y, to accept of a seat at the board where his noble friend

friend presided; and their union was now deemed unavoidable.

Nothing, however, could detach him from the gaming-table; and that passion, like Aaron's rod, seemed to swallow up all the rest. And from making it his uniform mode of life, in in such a metropolis as London, where the frowns of fortune are but assisted by the tricks of the sharper, it is not surprising that neither official appointments nor parental indulgence could support him. In these hours of distress, various and *secret* are said to have been the methods adopted by him. Annuities and reversions fell apace; nor probably has there been one *usurious thief* between Pall-mall and the monument, who have not at one time or other been conferred with in the *Jerusalem Chamber*: for such was the
name

name by which he humourously christened a back parlour in his house, where he constantly treated with the Jews to raise money:

So deeply indeed was the habit of gaming ingrafted into his disposition, that when his brother's famous house was in flames, he stood betting with the owner of it, *which beam would fall first*. Such strokes, we are told by his friends, are rather the ebullitions of vivacity, than the effects of profligacy. And doubtless to the same vivacity we must attribute an extraordinary bet, or rather *sweepstakes*, which he laid and won, one evening among a set of *bons vivans* at Mother K—y's in King's Place: where every man selecting his filly from the old lady's stud, the *carpet* was appointed the *turf*, when commencing at one instant the

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Cytherean

Cytherean course, he who first reached the *extatic point*, was entitled to the plate, which was unanimously adjudged to Carlo, upon the positive declaration of his courser, who boldly sung *Io pæan* in the triumphant moment.

Carlo bore all his misfortunes with the greatest *sang froid* imaginable, and loved on every opportunity to joke upon his own misfortunes; for when Tommy T—d one day conversing on parliamentary business, remarked that Carlo had never been so much *upon his legs* as in the preceding week.—“ True, replied Carlo:—*for the Jews have not left me a chair to sit down upon.*”

And when a creditor who had more rapacity than perhaps good sense or prudence (for Carlo certainly pays whenever he has money) sent a *fieri facias*

facias into the house of the orator, and seized all his furniture : the officers brought a cart to the door early in the morning, for the purpose of removing some of the goods immediately : An honest country lad, the only servant that rose on the occasion, no sooner perceived the business, than in the utmost perturbation of mind he ran up stairs to his master, who was fast asleep, and awoke him with the following dreadful exclamation—" Oh, master, master, my dear master, get up and get out at the garret window, —for the sheriff's officers are below, and talk of an *execution* !" " Begone, you blockhead, said Carlo, and let me finish my nap." Heavens, Sir, cried the honest creature, how can you talk about sleeping !—*by G—d, Sir, the CART is at the door ! !*"

C H A P. VI.

The longest in the volume—Sketches of modern gallantry—the lady of the Oaks, or memoirs of the countess of D——. The charms of variety.—Anecdotes of her ladyship and the cricketeering duke, &c.—a genuine letter,—female logic,—a matrimonial dialogue—an amorous interview—a discovery, and eclaircissement.

THAT thirst for singularity and pre-eminence among the foppish race, which had so much distinguished Carlo Khan, became absorbed in the pursuits of the fickle goddess Fortune; which sunk him into an almost total indifference for dress: though he still
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continued his devotions to the amorous deity, and was no less a favourite among the most celebrated demi-reps of quality, who shone forth at this time with more than ordinary *eclat*.

And probably no period of gallantry ever furnished more matter for animadversion, than the æra of which we are now speaking, *viz.* 1779; for in the course of a few months no less than *five* ladies of the first rank and fashion were detected in the lawless pursuits of love: among these were the beautiful *Laura*, who within these few weeks has paid the tribute of mortality; and the enchanting countess of D—, the present subject of a few pages, as her lovely arms have more than once encircled our dark-fronted hero.

This lady is daughter to the amiable, virtuous, and once beautiful du-

chefs of A—, by the late Duke of H—, her former husband. A natural levity, common to those in the higher ranks of life, drove her headlong into every fashionable gaiety. She thought herself warranted in every indulgence in those scenes of nocturnal excess, by Almighty Custom. She did not overleap the pale of propriety, as it is called, by mingling in these circles of rioting, delight, and dissipation, while she governed the sensual appetite from the engagement of illicit desire : but thus accustomed to every indulgence save the last, it is not extraordinary that she should, when relieved from the restraint of maiden fear, break over every fence of decency and discretion.

The celebrated Fete Champetre, with which her marriage was so luxuriously

riously celebrated, was scarcely over, when she found herself at large, as she imagined, to rove in the regions of bliss, and to taste of every halcyon fountain that fortune threw in her way.

The first beginnings of weakness, however, are severe, and they are generally conducted with caution. As we increase in the gratification of our wishes, our anxiety and our fears,—our regard for character, and our caution to prevent discovery, decrease;—the Countess soon arrived at maturity in the art of intrigue; and for some years without detection, though not without suspicion, did she wanton in the arms of love. At last jealousy gathered strength from the number of causes that gave rise to it; and it was
then

then discovered that there were several Cicisbeos on the list.

The good-natured husband, in the mean time, went on, *seeing* nothing and *knowing* nothing. Wrapped around with the blinds of love, he saw not that the lady was false, nor even conceived any doubts of her fidelity, till her conduct became glaring as the noon-day sun; and his doubts were almost removed by *ocular demonstration* of her falsehood and his ruin. Yet such was his indifference, his love of ease, or perhaps what has often been strongly insisted upon, his intrigue with and attachment to the beautiful Mrs. Arm—d, that he quietly sat down lamenting his fate, but without ever claiming the respect due to an injured husband.

The

The Earl of C—, the macaroni rival of Carlo, was for some time her favorite ; and when it was rumoured that he had requested to be appointed one of the commissioners to go to A——a, the Countess went so far as to write a private letter to her m—y, requesting her to use her interest with the k—— not to send him, *as her happiness depended upon it.*

Though numbers had the enjoyment of her favours, yet the young cricketeering Duke of D— was the most faithful and most enamoured of her followers : but, to shew the excess of female levity, after hiring a post-chaise and four, and driving full speed on the wings of love to Bright-helmstone, to meet this noble lover, she unfortunately arrived at the place of destination an hour or two after the
Duke

Duke had departed ; at the inn, however, where she halted, she met with the Duke's friend, Capt. S—n ; in the gaiety of her heart, she swore it was a matter of indifference, since she had come out for a frolic, who was of the party, and she therefore struck up a *tete-à-tete* with the captain, and stayed at the inn with him for three days.

During these revels of wantonness, an execution was brought into the Earl's house for a very large debt of her contracting, at a time when she was in the expectation of a great deal of company to a route. The untoward accident would have greatly embarrassed a lady of less invention and sprightliness than herself—but it no ways affected her ; for, when she found that she could not prevail on them to discontinue the possession for
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that night, she sent up to his Lordship's wardrobe, and fitted the bailiffs out in a couple of suits of cast-off laced cloaths, had their heads dressed up *a-la-mode*, and ushered them into the drawing-room, under the name of *two country relations of the Earl's*.

Her ladyship's intimacy with our hero was first insinuated to the public by some mischievous wag through the channel of one of the daily prints; who remarked "The partiality a certain lady in the neighbourhood of G— Square had lately shewn for Fox-dogs, in preference to those pretty descendants of the *Stuart-race*." The progress of her amour we have the pleasure to relate by the means of one of her own letters, to a female confidante, which will at the same time convey

convey a pretty just idea of her spirit and sentiments. The lady to whom the letter is addressed is a decayed person of fashion and quality, who to preserve an appearance in life has devoted her house to the *conveniency* of such company, as are prevented by their rank, or deterred by their pride from making their assignations at places of inferior resort. And often has her bed-chambers been witness to the rapturous embraces of a Gr——r, a Lig——r, and many equally amorous though more private or less suspected demi-reps of rank and fashion; but whose hitherto concealed sacrifices to to the Cyprian Queen, may probably find their way to the world through the channel of the ANNALS of GAL-LANTRY.

The

The Countess of D — to Mrs. N —.

“ I WAS amusing myself this morning, my dear Kitty, with looking at a boy as he was playing with a sparrow :—he had tied a string to the bird’s leg, and diverted himself in letting it fly from his hand, and pulling it back again.

“ I could not help moralizing upon this simple circumstance—our passions, said I, use us in the same manner as this boy does his bird ; they suffer us to go a little way under the conduct of reason, but soon pull us back again ; and force us to acknowledge their empire. Their servitude, however, is not less agreeable than it is powerful ;—the paths they introduce us into are strewed with the roses of delight, and har-

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mony

mony salutes us wherever we wander. In following their impulse, we act agreeably to our nature; but more especially so, when we give up ourselves to that agreeable passion—LOVE!

“ The wants, the natural wants which nature gave us, were given to be satisfied,—and satisfied they shall be—And who is to satisfy them!—My Lord?—Lord help him! for *he* cannot help me.—Suppose my Lord squanders his cash away here and there, and cannot answer a *draft upon sight*, which I want upon sight——what is to be done?—I only endeavour to hide his inabilities, by drawing upon a banker, whose cash is not exhausted. Besides, nothing recommends love more than variety; nothing feeds its flame more than novelty. Ask any *conscientious* wife, whether
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ther the transports at the year's end bear any comparison with those of the *honey-moon*?

“ By changing the objects of pleasure, one enjoys those sweet, those thrilling extacies every month. The object is new to us, and we are new to the object :—we meet, like Jupiter and Semele, in all the thunder and lightning of love.—What I say, believe me, I say from experience. For since I saw you, I have been happy in the arms of Carlo.

“ But before I tell you my pleasure, I must acquaint you with my misfortunes ; for I have had an interview of a very serious kind with my Lord.

“ My dear Lord is not a very suspicious man, or else we should have had a *fraca* before now ; however, some officious person has lent him a

pair of eyes, and taught him to discover, what will only fill his bosom with thorns.—I will give you a description of our interview.

“Just as I had come home from a morning ramble, he set himself down by me,—looked very sullen, played with his fingers, and frowned.—I said nothing, but gave him a look of indifference.—This increased his resentment, and he at length opened his mouth.

‘My Lady, I am surprized at your indiscretions :—“Your Lordship is very much to blame ; my indiscretions are too frequent to occasion any surprise.”

‘Do you add insolence then, to your folly ;’ replied he briskly.—“Certainly it cannot be insolent to speak the truth.”

‘We are wandering from the point, said he,—we must come to an eclairsissement.

cissement.'—"About what, I replied with an air of unconcern.

'Were you not with Carlo Khan?'—"I was." 'You answer with some degree of veracity; I wish your answer had been accompanied with a blush:' "Blushing is a token of guilt, said I, and I have done nothing that could vindicate a blush.

"Our whole conversation would be tedious—but when it drew to a conclusion, I turned the tables upon him, by telling him, I was not less alarmed and disturbed at Carlo's visits and freedoms than he was; and therefore begged to retire immediately into the country, to prevent his addresses. A proposal that seemed not only reasonable, but was likewise received as a proof of my innocence. Accordingly we next day set off for * * * * *, where

I now am. I was to stay two months, to free myself from Carlo's importunities!—Very well.—As soon as I was settled, I wrote him the following card.

“ My Lord from being insufficient
“ is become jealous :—inactivity and
“ jealousy follow each other like a
“ shade and a substance.—He has re-
“ monstrated against your familiari-
“ ties : I humoured him ; though at
“ the same time I could scarce look
“ in his face without laughing. To
“ quiet him, I am come down hither.
“ For when I am at a distance from
“ you, he imagines you will keep at
“ a distance from me.

“ Shew him that he is mistaken :
and come with the rapidity of a whirl-
wind.”

“ The card had the desired effect ; and
Carlo was as swift as my wishes. He
has

has all the fire of an Italian inamoretto ; he is thoroughly purged of the phlegm of an Englishman.

“ I was sitting in a window which overlooks the garden, when I heard a gentle tap : I instantly jumped up, and seeing a male form, was just going to shriek, when I perceived it was Carlo, and my fear was converted into rapture. He had got over the garden wall ;—for love surmounts all obstacles. He bowed, and seemed to beg admission ; which I intimated, by a wave of my hand was not proper ; and with a reluctant slow pace, he retired into the first alley.

“ My woman was with me ; I could not trust her ; but soon contrived to get rid of her ; and in the interval of her absence stole into the garden. Instinctive love led me to the spot whither

ther Carlo had retired.—Shall I describe it.

“ It was an arbour composed of woodbines, intermingled with jessamine, the bed which Homer composes for Juno was not half so pleasant, nor half so well secured from the prying eyes of insidious curiosity.—Carlo prostrated himself at my feet, and devoured my hands with kisses. I made a faint struggle to disengage myself—A faint struggle indeed ! which only served to increase the flame that burnt with uncommon fury.

“ At last he lifted up his eyes towards my face, and darted a look, which said, that he was dying for love of me.—A blush of modesty painted my cheeks, —A tremor crept all over my frame, and I fell into his arms.

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“ The

“ The delirium was beyond expression!—

“ When I recovered, struck with the danger of my situation, I feigned a reluctance to stay any longer.—He pressed me to his bosom: and left a kiss upon my cheek;—I faintly chid him, called him a naughty dangerous man; and as he was preparing to continue the amorous conflict, I attempted a retreat, which a second embrace told me was impracticable—What could I do?—I whispered *honour*:—he answered *love*; and as I was leaving him, begged the rapture of one more interview before his return to London.

“ When the servants are retired to bed, said I,—this shall be the place: but quit the garden as soon as you can now for fear of a discovery.

* * * * *

“ Night

“ Night came : — unluckily the door of the fore-gate was locked, which led towards the garden : but love is not easily barred out.—He forced the gate, and repaired to the place assigned.

“ We spent the night in ecstasy, and took no notice of the day-light, which had stolen in upon us. The heart that is elevated with rapture has no room for suspicion. The servant, on rising, perceived that the gate had been forced ; but finding no signs of violence in the house, imagined the thief must be concealed in the garden. He repaired thither to satisfy his curiosity, and discovered me and Carlo in each others arms. I was alarmed at the discovery, and my fright prevented me from taking any precautions to secure my character.

Bad

Bad news always travels fast, my dear friend ; and my husband was immediately informed of his dishonour by the servant who made the discovery.

“ Carlo, however, got the start of them, and was in town that evening, whither my lord pursued him ; and a duel had *almost* been the consequence ; but by fortunate interposition was prevented. However, my character is to receive the blazoning of a proctor at Doctor’s Commons ; as well as the malicious censure of hireling scribblers in newspapers.

I can add no more.

Adieu. D——.”

On the Earl’s arrival in London, he immediately communicated her daughter’s behaviour to the Dukes of A—; and the unfortunate daughter on leaving

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ing the country, flew also to her mother's house; but feeling her situation there very disagreeable from the incessant reproaches she met with, she *cloped*, and flew to the Duke of D—. As *variety* was as much her ladyship's motto, as any female's of the *haut ton*, we have found her in all the changes of manhood, from a prince * to a subaltern officer: while his lordship was pursuing beauty in as many forms, from the arm-filling A—ft—d to the delicate, the platonic *Fanarelli*.

* See the Annals of Gallantry, vol. i. p. 174.

C H A P. VII.

Carlo loses his ministerial post—Sets up a Pharaoh bank—journey to Bath—is attempted to be robbed—Adventure at the hot bath.

THOUGH during the administration of Lord Volpone, he had obtained the reversion of a lucrative office in Ireland for three lives, which had now devolved upon Carlo, yet the latter, pressed by his necessities, and urged by *weighty* considerations had parted with it to Mr. Ruggboy; and he too, from similar motives, had also parted with it to the present agent of *Secret influence*.

I

Carlo's

Carlo's conduct to Lord Boreas in the affair of the well known parson, who threatened *to dye his black coat red*, had given umbrage to his Lordship, and promised the destruction of their friendship, which eventually took place; though accelerated as has been said, by Carlo's imprudent behaviour having given much offence to a certain great personage: though many have attributed his removal from office to his unbounded dissipation, negligence of public business, and some secret transactions which never met the world's eye. From that moment Carlo became one of the most violent opposers of his Lordship; and indeed carried his hostilities to such an indecent extreme, as to have sometimes not less disgusted his *minority* friends, than the *majority* whom he opposed.

The

The loss of a thousand a-year, to a man whose finances were not otherwise very well arranged, was a stroke the weight of which was not easily to be parried. In revolving a multiplicity of schemes for future advantage he luckily hit upon the idea of a *Pharoah Bank*, which was opened at Brookes's in conjunction with an honourable friend; and as the odds in their favour were estimated at thirty *per cent.* at least, he he now shifted the scene of distress, and dropt all future thoughts on the Treasury. Indeed it was reported in the course of the first fortnight after its institution, he filled his pockets with no less a sum than twenty thousand pounds.

He continued in his new situation with unremitting assiduity and attention for a considerable time with all the

success that the most sanguine expectations could hope ; till every *pigeon* of rank or fortune that could be decoyed into the snare was plucked as close as they could bear. And when game grew scarce in London, he set off for Bath, to establish another bank in that seat of pleasure and voluptuousness.

In his journey hither he was attempted to be robbed by a highwayman, who coming close up to the chaise swore he would shoot him dead that moment, if he did not deliver his money, “ Sir, says the orator, with infinite composure, you are egregiously mistaken, my name is Carlo.”—“ D—n your name, says the collector, your money, your money.”—“ I tell you again, my good friend, replies the patriot, you are mistaken, my name is *Carlo, Carlo Khan*--are you satisfied now ?”

now?" The highwayman still insisting on the absurd demand, and repeatedly calling out, "your *money* your *money*:" Carlo was at last so provoked at the fellow's stupidity, that he fired at, and very severely wounded him.

His successes here were various, though upon the whole rather fortunate; and the hours which were not spent at the gaming table, are said to have been devoted in attending the political and republican lectures of a well known literary lady, who is unwilling to allow that the government of *any thing* should be in the hands of one man only.

Far be it from us to suppose that any thing more than the most *sensible* subjects could claim the attention of *two* such exalted beings, especially when alone. Forbidding curiosity, therefore

therefore, to pry into the mysteries of Platonic friendship, we shall only take a momentary view of this celebrated fair-one, the *Queen of Alfred-house*, in which she reigned sole mistress at the time we allude to.

Her fame as the literary champion of republicanism excited her vanity to take a very handsome house on St. James's Parade, in Bath, at her first going to that city; and which was no doubt a presage of her approaching exaltation. Here it was she first became acquainted with the late * Rev. Dr. Wilson, who conceiving the highest opinion both of her head and heart, removed her to his own, *Alfred-house*, near the New Rooms, which he not only presented to her, with his library, furniture,

* The Doctor died at Alfred-house, Bath, since this volume went to press.

furniture, &c. but gave her full command of his household, purse, and *person*.

On the approach of her forty-ninth birth-day, the doctor begged, borrowed, and bought odes on the happy occasion; and *Catherine the Republican* was enthroned queen of *Alfred-house*.

Dr. *Graham*, the lecturer on generation, had the honour to present to her, on his *bended knee*, his *History of the present state of physic*; and Dr. *Wilson* approached her sacred person in the same humble attitude, to present her a large gold madallion. Her stature was afterwards moulded as large as the life, in Worcester china, and fixed in Walbrooke-church, London—but not fixed as fate: and Catherine enjoyed all earthly felicity—excepting only that of *health*: to procure which, she put herself under

der the care of Dr. Graham, and by ærial, ætherial, magnetic, and electric applications and influence, she received a perfect cure, which she has acknowledged in the body of his work : and for which good offices, like her compeer Catherine of Russia, she liberally rewarded him, besides complimenting him with her miniature picture, which he long afterwards wore in his bosom.

The assiduity with which the Doctor attended her Majesty, was best known by those who saw the *manifest injury* he sustained by so frequently administering his vivifying electric influences; for *he was often obliged to eat TWELVE EGGS during four hours electric shocks.* Nothing, however could exceed the friendly returns her Majesty has shewn to the Doctor and all his family ; and
his

his happy success with her, was highly beneficial in point of *private* practice;—as many other ladies of rank, among whom was the patroness of the Bath-Easton poets, gave public testimony to the Doctor's skill.

As from previous engagements, no hope of a matrimonial union could take place between the *Emperor of Quacks* and the *Queen of Liberty*, she resolved however upon a family connexion at least; and like Queen Christina, of famous memory, she abdicated her throne, left her dignity and state with her excellent friend Dr. Wilson, and retired to Leicester, in order to continue in a course of experimental philosophy with Dr. Graham's *younger brother*, at that time not twenty, and whom she soon afterwards married.

From

From her first intimacy with Dr. Wilson, she had already cost him near seven thousand pounds; and during her matrimonial trip of about two months, she only drew upon him for the moderate sum of six hundred: though before the expiration of that time, the extraordinary news had reached the Doctor's ears, and in the first ebullitions of his passion, he caused her name to be erased from the door of Alfred-house; and her mausoleum, which he had sculptured at his own expence, and with which he had taken so much pains to immortalise her name, he ordered to be demolished, and took every method to testify his resentment of this ungrateful phenomenon.

While she resided at Bath, her house was open to adventurers of every denomination;

nomination ; dancers, quacks, gamblers, pimps, flatterers, and puppies : all who could write, (or thought they could write) against her enemies, had a welcome reception, and generous reward : and no wonder a similarity of thinking should produce an intimacy between Carlo, and this celebrated dethroner of kings.

After one of his nocturnal scenes of business, he happened to pass by the hot bath pretty early in the morning, where he observed a beautiful young lady up to the chin ; her head adorned with flowers, (the fashion of that time) and her cheeks glowing with a roseate bloom from the heat of the water, she looked a very goddess : as Carlo stood meditating on this enchanting and inviting object, a gentleman elegantly dressed came up, who proved to be
the

the lady's husband, and who exclaimed, "My dearest life, you look like an angel;—I wish I were with you!" Carlo resolved instantly to gratify him, and laying hold of him by the shoulder, and the waistband of his breeches, threw him over the balustrades, telling him as he went over, that his wish should be fulfilled.—The gentleman recovered his fright; and by the intervention of some friends, the good-natured husband was induced, for the joke's sake, to accept an apology, and thus prevent any serious consequences.

Soon afterwards, Carlo left Bath, but not before he had formed an intimacy which laid the foundation of a future intrigue, with a lady distinguished in every view in which she could be considered,—for birth, fortune, beauty, and accomplishments—

And

And what is more singular, for her unabating fondness and attachment to her husband, while she was even running her full career in the road of dissipation and unlicensed love :—This was no other than the charming *Laura*, whose recent death we mentioned in a foregoing page ; and the story of whose sorrows (for erratic pleasure is but another name for sorrow) will furnish materials for the poet as well as the novellist ; and if portrayed in the drama, would exhibit as lovely a picture of frail sensibility, as the whole circle of domestic infelicity could provide.

When the application of passages from Shakespeare to modern characters was the fashion and the rage of the day, Laura's beauty occasioned the following elegant one,

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Two

Two of the fairest stars of all the heaven,
Having some business, do intreat her eyes
To twinkle in their spheres.

And till the last moment of vital existence, where “the hand of cunning beauty had set her seal” there still remained a richness which no tarnish could deface;—there still remained the animated features of that beauty which was once the admiration of the world: her fall could not extinguish them, nor could depravity itself exclude them from her possession. And it is to be hoped, that it was not so much the impetuous tide of lawless desire, as the easiness of inattention, and the little care she took to guard against the first parley with the enemy, the confidence she had in her own strength, and that fatal curiosity, which hurried her on to try how far
“his

“ his assurance would go,” that carried down the stream of error. And ’tis also to be hoped, that a mind like her’s broke through the delirium into which it was plunged, and was itself again—that *time*, the universal fashioner of events, brought about this change before he laid his cruel iron hand upon her lovely bosom : for surely grief and anxiety bowed down her head, and she died at last of a *broken heart*.

The reader’s curiosity will pardon one digressive chapter to the memory of so sweet an object !

C H A P. VIII.

*Memoirs of the unfortunate Laura—
Her amours with the Duke of A—r
—with Carlo—with Capt. B—n—
the detection—retirement and death.*

LAURA was the daughter of Lord H—fe. She had been almost dying for the Marquis of C——n, before they were married, and never was there known an instance of greater conjugal felicity than they mutually enjoyed for some time ; and when, at the time of Carlo being at Bath, his Lordship was overtaken by a violent and severe fever, she was almost distracted at his danger, and watched over him with a care and tenderness, which

which only true fond love could inspire. She was hardly ever from his bed-side; she attended him herself, sat up night after night, and almost forfeited her own life in the preservation of his.

It was in the course of some friendly visits, to enquire after the Marquis's welfare, that the Duke of A——r, and Carlo first saw her. The grief with which she was affected, had thrown a melting languor into her lovely eyes: frequent watchings had only made an impression upon her, in softening the tints of her complexion, and giving her features a plaintive shade. The visible distress of her mind imparted even additional fascination to the charms of her face, and the Duke became instantly enamoured of her. He was not of a complexion to pay

great regard to the sacred rights of marriage; nor was the circumstance of her sincere affliction for her Lord, any other subject of consideration to him, than as it impeded the object he had in view, and threatened an unpromising issue to his suit.

Spurred on by the violence of hasty desires, he attempted a thousand ways to gain an interview with her, but in vain:—his character forbade all communication; and though his rank in life gave him admission to every fashionable place of public resort, the danger that pursued his society, excluded him from every circle where he was likely to meet with the Marchioness of C——n.

On the recovery of the Marquis, and when they left Bath, a favourable opportunity presented itself; he followed

lowed them to Salt-hill, and there took occasion to slip a billet into her hand, conveying the most ardent declaration of love. She laughed at this daring attempt upon her virtue, treated it with the most sovereign indifference, and in the height of her joy for the Marquis's recovery, she determined to play with the passion of her enamoured gallant. She appointed to meet him. She acted the cavalier, and rallied him with more wit, than prudence on his assurance ; while he, like a skilful negociator, gave full way to the tide ; flattered her even by appearing to feel the severity of her attack ; and watching every motion, yielding to every impression, and seizing on every occasion, he threw her off her guard, and shut up every avenue that led to recollection. She that came to triumph

triumph was defeated ; and the slave became victor.

Having once over-stepped the boundary of restraint, she pursued the road of freedom ; and for some time they enjoyed the unlimited extent of their wishes : till the Duke becoming fatiated with the luxury in which he lived, determined to prosecute ambition in a nobler line, and enter a volunteer in the Royal service.

As some palliation of Laura's conduct, it has been urged, that the Marquis was highly enamoured of dress, perhaps more than he ought to be ; and failed in those attentions which he paid at first, and which Beauty never fails to exact as its due. The failure of attention is generally a prelude to the bankruptcy of *love* : And when the heart of a gay beautiful woman

man.

man esteems itself a widow in affection, it naturally looks abroad for a second mate, and revenge may do more than inclination would have thought of: If we may judge from appearances, revenge was certainly the impelling cause; for inclination would have been more studious in the choice of its object.

For some time Laura was unhappy at her lover's departure; but having once deviated, it required no great fortitude to persevere; and Carlo, who had only been deterred from declaring his passion to her at Bath, on the idea of repulse from the *bauteur* of virtue, now avowed his sentiments without reserve, and was the second happy man whose arms she blest with her bewitching charms: 'tis whispered also, that he received many substantial proofs
of

of Laura's favours in other *coin* than love ; a circumstance that may be more readily believed, when we reflect that Carlo had few other resources than Brookes's to recruit his *deranged* finances : and it was his close attention to this latter place, and the well-known *Betty's*, (where a rival to Laura's love sprung up) that first caused a misunderstanding between the happy pair ; they parting at last with little regret on either side.

It would be impossible to follow her through the varieties she now pursued : for without an interval of deliberation she drove along the course of wanton gallantry ; and only halted that she might resume her journey with increased anxiety.

That resentment was the prompter to her conduct, cannot well be doubted,

doubted, when we consider the object of her final choice:—for though the Duke of A —, and Carlo might, from their persons, their accomplishments, or their arts have palliated a lady's *foiblesse* — *inclination* would have selected a gallant of sense and appearance; but revenge fixed upon one, who was the laughing stock of his acquaintance;—Capt. By—n was boisterous in his manner, awkward and clumsy in his appearance, empty and unpleasant in his conversation; without a single quality of merit to recommend him, appearance to strike, or temptation to impose even on a vitiated appetite, he found favour in Laura's eyes, engrossed her attention, and engaged her in an intrigue, for which she was banished her home, and sacrificed her fame. He had not even the ordinary discretion of a happy lover,

ver, but was so elated with his conquest, that his tongue kept no limits; and she was too much taken up with him to attend to herself!

The Marquis was informed of their conduct, but treated the report as an idle tale, calculated only to disturb his peace, and injure their connubial felicity; yet prudence dictated him to watch her conduct, though he did not believe it to be criminal. To be in doubt was worse even than certainty; and therefore he appointed his chaplain and a gentleman on whose fidelity he could rely, to watch her conduct, while he determined for a while to take shelter in the country.

The Captain was also at this time in the country, and having a pressing occasion for money, he applied to her to accommodate him. She immediately

ately dispatched a packet of Bank-notes to the value of one hundred pounds, which fell into the hands of the clergyman and his friend. This was the first proof of her guilt they received ; for the letter contained the most tender avowals of her passion, and pressing him to come to town to enjoy the happy moment of the Marquis's absence. He did come ; not in consequence of those expressions, but because he received no answer to his letter, the interception of which made them conclude they were discovered ; and fearing a more palpable detection, they determined upon an elopement to the continent, and actually set off in a chaise and four for Dover. But the trusty spies of the Marquis having intercepted all their proceedings, the lovers were overtaken just as they were

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stepping on ship-board,—the lady was brought to town, and the solitary lover followed.—Discovery and explanation took place. The suffering of Lord H—fse, of his Lady, the Marquis and even of the fair culprit, are beyond description—it was the refinement of distress, and beggars all painting.

For Laura, nothing but infamy and agony now remained without a ray of hope, she had every thing to fear : she had forfeited every social delight, every domestic pleasure, for a man whose conversation was as contemptible, as his manners and company were disgusting ; and even penury and want seemed now to threaten her with afflictions, which her birth and rank had placed far from her knowledge.—She withdrew to an obscure and mournful retirement,

irement, doing severe penance for the indiscretions of an heedless disposition, till the grim tyrant put a period to her sufferings—a few weeks since brought intelligence, that the lovely criminal was *no more!*

C H A P. IX.

Carlo's love for the fair Susan.

THE circles of the *ton*, the band of gentlemen gamesters, and the whole tribe of republican advocates, and American refugees became at this time greatly alarmed for the ardent passion which Carlo, their leader, their defender, now witnessed for a nymph of servile condition, the *handsome*, but *humble* handmaid of the celebrated

Mrs. *Betty*, in St. James's-street. And so alarming were the symptoms of his Cyprian captivity, that his friends began even to apprehend the total deprivation of those towering talents, so essential to the interest of America.

Early and late was he prostrate at the feet of his *rustic* charmer, and though his connexion was only a subject of merriment among the common run of his acquaintance, it was a matter of deep concern to his more particular friends who seemed to be much afraid, that an attachment so rivetted, might terminate in *something* more than a mere amour.

This pretty rustic, (who most probably would never have emerged from her primitive employment of washing tea-cups and wine-glasses, but in consequence of the notice taken of her by Carlo) was daughter to the ostler
of

of an inn, some distance from London; and at a proper age was introduced to the same house as a maid of all work: the advantageous circumstance of being *pretty*, and very smart in person, recommended her to the preferment of bar-maid; her pride increased, as is usual, with a rise in life, and she soon began to coquet it with every traveller of appearance, who chanced to call at the house.

Sally had continued in this situation four or five years, (during which time, from the generosity of the guests, she had accumulated a little sum, that was farther augmented by whatever her father could save) when an itinerant dancing master made his appearance in the village. His tinsel finery, and his smooth tongue, soon made him a favourite with the country girls; and he might probably have picked up a live-

lihood with decency, had not his designs been of a more ambitious nature. In the course of his enquiries concerning his different scholars and visitants, Sally's personal charms, of which he already began to feel the effect, were highly bepraised; nor were her *golden* ones less recommended, though certainly much more exaggerated; being increased in the proportion of five to one, as is usual in such cases.

The enraptured *Prince of Capers* now laid close siege to Sally, and in a few weeks prevailed so far, that she agreed to set off with him to the metropolis, (with his wonderful description of which he had totally infatuated her head) where they were to be married; for her father would certainly have intercepted their designs in their own village.

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The day of their elopement was fixed for a Sunday, when Sally having obtained leave to pass the afternoon with an acquaintance, she hastened to her assignation, loaded with as much of her finery as she could conceal about her; but having taken special care of her strong box, in which was contained the only magnet that could effectually attract her lover's heart. They soon after joined one of the stages, and were presently conveyed to a distance, at which they thought themselves secure from pursuit. Here they passed the first night, in all the little fondnesses of expecting lovers, when Sally, in the effusions of female kindness, deposited in her seducer's hands the golden treasure. He received it with rapture; and a thousand declarations of love and gratitude: but
early

early in the morning he set off with the precious deposit, leaving the unfortunate Sally to lament her credulity, and sigh alone.

A variety of passions agitated her young bosom, on the discovery of her lover's perfidy, which at last, however, yielded to resentment: after examining her private purse, and paying the expences incurred for the preceding evening, she found herself mistress of about thirty shillings; with this sum she set forward to the capital, in the spirited resolutions of wreaking her revenge upon the first dupe to her artifice. As the prelude to her operations, she sought for a place through the channel of a register-office, and was fortunate enough to please the good Mrs. *Betty*; particularly so, when she found Sally known to many of her customers,

customers, that had occasionally called at the inn where she formerly presided in the character we have mentioned.

The influence of her beauty soon began to exert itself on the heart of Carlo, who entirely abdicated Brookes's, for the superlative pleasure of chatting to Sally; though her animating glances often proved fatal to his success at the dice-board. Indeed gaming is inconsistent with the indulgence of any of the passions, requiring a man to be uniformly under the most severe controul of unprejudiced reason.

Carlo met with so many smart repulses from the nymph, whose ambition proposed nothing less than the matrimonial chain, that, however galling, however humbling it appeared, he had *almost* thrust his neck into the yoke,

yoke, when Col. F——k, by a well-timed piece of raillery, checked him in his absurd career, and brought him back to politics and reason: he was the only one of his friends who had greatness enough of soul to break through the prejudices of fashion, and shew any pity to the love-sick swain: the following imitation of Horace is said to be the performance of that gentleman, as an attempt to relieve the drooping spirits of his friend by the example of other *great men* in the same circumstances; and though the Colonel incurred the displeasure of many of his political friends; yet the intention was certainly a good one; and we presume there is wit and merit enough in the poetry, to apologize for our repeating it on this occasion.

H O R A C E,

HORACE, ODE IV. BOOK II.

Imitated and addressed to

CARLO KHAN.

WHY, Carlo; why so much afraid
To own you love a chambermaid?

Great men have had their Phyllis;
Briseis, of mop-squeezing race,
With brawny arm and ruddy face,
Once charm'd the stout Achilles.

A cinder wench, on Portsmouth-point,
Put nose of Keppel out of joint,
Tho' he as *Neptune* fierce is;
And, midst his triumphs, great Burgoyne,
To *Sally* of the *Newgate* line,
At *Still-water* made verses.

What time, on *Saratoga's* ground,
Gates penn'd him up like hog in pound,
And he to save his bacon,
His bouncing fustian laid aside,
And, shorten'd of his former pride,
Ingloriously was taken.

The knot of marriage tightly draw,
Some peer may call you son-in-law;
Tho' *Ostler* down at *Shafton*
Boasts he's the fire of *Sukey Stanes*,
Some royal blood may fill her veins,
As well as those of *Grafton*.

This

This piece of irony had its intended effect, by bringing Carlo back to reason; and though it did not extinguish his flame, diverted it into another channel: as he began to think he might certainly obtain his wishes upon easier terms than those which Sally proposed. And this was more readily accomplished in consequence of an instance of her own vanity.

She was persuaded one evening to make her appearance at Ranelagh, decked out in her finest trappings, when Carlo was known to be there, attending one of the most beautiful women this country can boast. Sally soon discovered him, and curtsied in passing, though without being noticed; till some of his friends whispered to him the circumstance. Carlo would have *blushed* indeed to have acknowledged

ledged a chamber-maid in the Rotunda; on some slight pretence he therefore left the company, and sought his charmer, whom he persuaded to withdraw with him from this gay circle, and bless him with her company in a place of more privacy. She consented, and a coach being called, they went first to the Marlborough Gardens, where after an elegant little supper, he plied her so closely with love and wine, and promises of future greatness, that the fond believing fair consented to yield him a perfect happiness, for the consummation of which they proceeded to a house, dedicated to amorous sports in the purlieus of Soho.

Though the coach had afforded Carlo several liberties with his fair nymph, it was by no means adapted to give complete gratification: yet

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from

from these liberties he apprehended a much easier attainment of his wishes than he experienced ; for after, with some difficulty persuading Sally to accompany him into a bed-chamber, he found that he had all the pride of virtue, or at least of vanity, to subdue a second time. She was greatly hurt at being forced to give up every hope of a matrimonial conquest. But perseverance is Carlo's *forte* ; he promised, he vowed ; he knelt at her feet, swore eternal constancy ; he again plied her with wine, pressed her hands, her lips and bosom ; by degrees and imperceptibly unloosed her cloaths, till her desires once more grew warm, she yielded to his hopes, leaned upon his bosom, and granted all the preludes to delight, when Carlo suddenly seized her in his arms, conveyed her to the bed,

bed, and without suffering the squeamishness of her delicacy to be any longer an obstacle, plunged into the joys of love, and experienced all the sweets which health and ruddy beauty can bestow, so greatly preferable to the insipid pleasures that even the contaminated charms of a Perdita could yield.

C H A P. X.

A sketch of the Farrinelli—A duel prevented—The platonic attachment.

AMONG the liberal vocations, there is not one where the professors, (the female ones) are more subject to the charge of *dubiety of character*, than the stage; whether this

arises from a course of irregularities that too often precede a commencement on the theatre, the force of sollicitation when on it, or the impressions left on their minds from the frequent personification of *loose* characters, is hard to determine; probably they may all assist; as we find the charge with very few exceptions, not over malevolently founded.

The lives of few heroines have, perhaps, been more chequered, than that of the lady we at present allude to: and did we undertake her biography, the variety she has tasted has been so liberal, that we should run the risk of being censured for dealing too largely in poetical prose, or crowding our piece with too many incidents.

A woman possessed of an agreeable face and a good figure, doubles her admirers

admirers upon the stage ; for which reason the French ladies thus endowed, often commence actresses without any theatrical qualifications, and often without salaries, as it is an eminence from whence they can be more readily distinguished by the gallant world. Miss F— felt the good effects of this observation ; for though she was introduced upon the stage by the interest of Mr. Y——r, the honours of whose table, (and whose bed too, report says) she continued to perform, yet her levees were soon crowded by fighting peers and adoring commoners.

Among the many who were particularly attentive to this lady, were Carlo, and General Hasty ; both of whom had the same object in view, the personal enjoyment of her charms, and which each of them wished to ob-

tain upon the easiest terms possible ; for in fact, neither could propose very lucrative offers ; the finances of the General had been injured, as well as his laurels, in the inhospitable desarts of America ; and since Carlo had been removed from the Treasury-board, little confidence could be placed in his promises, as the performance of them frequently depended upon a lucky throw at Brookes's. While the *Farinelli*, like the fair Sally, seemed desirous of *legalising* her connections by the authority of Doctor's Commons ; tho' both her gallants were of too generous a disposition to think that either beauty or gold ought ever to be hoarded, or become the exclusive property of one person ; but that their charms should be spread abroad for a general blessing.

One

One morning when Carlo attended the *ruelle* of this vocal enchantress, and was conversing to her in all the raptures of love and adoration, he was suddenly interrupted by the lady desiring him to explain himself, and what his intentions were. Carlo assured her that he intended every thing noble and generous.

Yes, replied she; but I do not find you say *honourable*.

Do you dispute my *honour*, madam?

Not as a gentleman; but I have my doubts as a woman: and to come to the point, Sir, do you mean to give me your hand—or only—

Had Carlo been called to order in the house by Lord Boreas, he could not have been more disconcerted: he endeavoured to parry the thrust however; he told her, he supposed she meant

meant marriage; that idle ceremony, that mere farce, exploded even by the clergy themselves; for she must certainly have seen Dr. Minchin's celebrated performance, where he puts it beyond a doubt, that marriage is a joke, and that bigamy and polygamy ought to be tolerated in all civilized nations.—Let me, then, madam, continued he, kneel at your feet, and declare I idolize you—

Just as he was pursuing this strain of rapture, General *Hasty* entered: he too was an admirer of the *Farrenelli*, though as far from being the advocate of *platonism* as his friend *Carlo*, whom he little expected to have found in such a place, so early in the day; he therefore concluded, and very readily told *Carlo*, that he supposed a run of bad luck over night had kept

kept him awake; or probably it was not convenient to go home by daylight; as the damn'd duns were as much to be feared as the American rebels—"or as a Saratoga convention," replied Carlo, piqued at the General's reflection.

The General was incensed at the sarcasm; which he considered as laughing at his misfortunes; he therefore peremptorily insisted upon knowing what pretensions Carlo had to the lady?—an interrogation that was answered with equal haughtiness by his rival; and the consequence was an agreement to decide the matter *genteelly* the next morning in Hyde-Park.

The interposition of the Farrinelli being fruitless in bringing about a reconciliation between the lovers, she began to reflect upon herself as fatally
accessary

accessary to this horrid business; and to endeavour by all means to avoid having the blood of two such worthy characters shed upon her account: she therefore racked her brain for some time for a stratagem to prevent this rencontre; and at last determined to dress herself in man's apparel; and repairing to Bow-street gave information of the intended duel; the runners were accordingly ordered to attend. But to make sure of the execution of her plan, she accompanied them next morning herself, when they were fortunate enough to meet and stop the combatants just as they entered the Park-Gate.

We have said in the preceding part of this volume, that the reason given by the celebrated *Lady of the Oaks* for her inconstancy, originated in a *certain inactivity*

inactivity that she found in her *cara sposa*; this, whether it was occasioned by natural defect, a natural indolence, or was the result of *very delicate*, tho' *uncommon* sentiments, is said to have experienced a congeniality of taste and feeling in the intimacy and friendship of the Platonic Farrinelli:—And his lordship was so happy in the discovery of this reciprocity of sentiment, that at the very moment when General Hasty and Carlo were ready to cut each others throats, he stepped in, and persuaded her to accept a settlement of five hundred a-year: this so agitated the mind of the Westminster champion, that it was long before he could collect his ideas upon any topic but the dear lost object of his wishes. Even the harmony of the dice lost their charms; and he could hear them rattle
in

in an adjoining room without wishing to touch them.

His lordship and his fair-one continue their friendship in the utmost refinement of Platonic love; and as they are pleased so boldly to assert this, far be it from us to contradict them: they must however forgive us, for declaring, that *our* sentiments are so *un-refined*, and our feelings so *vulgar*, that the *sight* much more the touch of a beautiful woman, is apt to raise commotions very incompatible with the system to which they pretend such an attachment: we rather agree upon this subject with our honest countrymen Butler, who says,

———To bid me not to love,
Is to forbid my pulse to move;
My beard to grow, my ears to prick up,
Or when I'm in a fit, to hick-up:

Command

Command me to piss out the moon,
And 'twill as easily be done.
Love's power's too great to be withstood
By feeble human flesh and blood;
'Twas he that brought upon his knees
The hec't'ring kill-cow, *Hercules*;
Transform'd his leager-lion's skin
T' a petticoat, and made him spin:
'Twas love made emperors gallants
To their own sisters and their aunts;
Set popes and cardinals agog
To play with pages at leap-frog;
'Twas he that made St. Francis do
More than the devil could tempt to,
In cold and frosty weather grow
Enamour'd of a wife of snow*;
And tho' she were of rigid temper,
With melting flames accost, and tempt her;
Which after in enjoyment quenching,
He hung a garland on his engine.

The disappointment that Carlo experienced by the loss of the Farrinelli, though it might excite his chagrin, was partly alleviated by the recollection of the happiness he had

* A story told in the Popish legends of St. Francis.

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casted with the fair *Countess of the Oaks*. And as love was not one of the passions which ever led Carlo into great excesses, he easily consoled himself in the arms of one willing nymph, for the disdain or negligence of another: nor, indeed, except in the case of the fair Sally, did he ever indulge it so far, as to interfere with his other pursuits. And his friends have frequently urged, in exculpation of his frailties, that his powers are too great and active to remain long unemployed: the conclusion from which is pretty evident, that a man of such a cast will rather do mischief than do nothing.

The writer of Carlo's political life observes, " that to exhibit the *secret*
" *history* of the most moral and fanc-
" tified person upon earth, were to
" write a libel, rather than a life; and
" be

“ be the pandar of scandal, not the
 “ friend of truth : and had we no re-
 “ gard to the delicacies of eminent
 “ characters, we owe a decency to
 “ society which never can be violated
 “ without blame.”

With this writer's permission, we see no just cause why the follies and errors of great men should be held in more veneration than those of an inferior class ; on the contrary, they are doubtless more severely reprehensible : unless, indeed, Carlo's apologist has adopted the maxim of Dr. Garth, that,

— Little villains should submit to fate,
 That great ones may enjoy the world in state.

In respect of Carlo's gallantries, however, none of them can with justice be attributed to him as the result of maxims pernicious to society ; it is

chiefly in those of warm constitutions an open temper, and strong feelings, that the ardent irregularities of the amorous passions prevail: to suppose him therefore at all times equally and inexorably callous to the charms of beauty, were an insult to the susceptibility of his heart; and the contrary is evident from the elegant verses he inscribed to Mrs. C—e, where he delineates the state of a mind gazing on female excellence, enriched with all the graces of nature, and adorned in all the elegance of fashion; and then exclaims—

Then tell me, mysterious enchanter, oh tell,
By what wonderful art, by what magical spell,
My heart is so fenc'd, that for once, I am wise,
And gaze without rapture on Amoret's eyes?

That my wishes, which never were bounded before,
Are here bounded by friendship, and ask for no more.
Is't reason?---No: that *my whole life will belie,*
For who so at variance as *reason* and I.

Is't

Is't ambition that fills up each chink of my heart.
 Nor allows any softer sensation a part?
 O no!---for in this all the world must agree,
 One folly was never sufficient for me.

He satirizes his own foibles with a degree of severity; and no man in the world was ever more ready in laughing at them, or breaking his jests upon his own misfortunes. His pecuniary transactions, however frequent, were never conducted under the affectation of secrecy; and when his friend Dr. J—b one day enquired after his welfare, in the familiar way of, *How do ye do.* Remarkably well, replied Carlo; considering I have not had a STOOL these three weeks!

Though in these *annals* we earnestly wish to preclude every thing but what relates to the softer passion, yet the *eventful changes* in the political world

at this period, are so extraordinary, and so immediately connected with the life of our hero, and his part in them so very active and versatile, that we are indispenfibly led into a transient review thereof, yet in a manner that we hope will rather create a smile, than have the least tendency to excite the spirit of party-jangling and contention.

C H A P. XI.

Multum in parvo; or, The Chapter of Politicks: containing the annals of the rise and fall of Carlo.

NOW though Carlo was strongly attached to gaming, he still had a violent thirst after politics; and it came to pass in those days the war went on unprosperously; misfortune followed

followed misfortune, taxes became high and burthenfome, public credit became like unto nothing.

Then the patriots, at the head of whom stood Carlo Khan, lifted up their voices, even to the ears of the king, so that the minority changed sides, and the ministry fell. But tho' the patriots had stirred up the people for ten long years, they had found no success, not even in one question, until this day.

And having gathered themselves together, and communed with one another, they took unto themselves good places; all of them took good places, even unto Jack T——nd, and Richard the Playmonger. But the Appointments of those men, with the places and pensions they granted, are all registered in the political record, called the Gazette.

Thus

Then did the patriots rule the state; and promised great things unto the people; and more especially the annihilation of pensions and useless places, which was projected by Edward St. Omer, a speaker of sublime things. And the hearts of the people leapt for joy. But all this was like unto a whitened sepulchre; for the restless spirit of Carlo became, as it were, a lying spirit unto his party, and he deceived them. For the premier* of the land was suddenly visited with sickness, and died; and great was the mourning and lamentation, for he was an upright minister.

Now Carlo, who from the love he pretended for the good of the people, had been surnamed the *man of the people*, became swollen with ambition, and determined within himself he

* Marquis of R——m.

would

would be prime minister : though his own party knew not what he wished : for like the *Fox* he was a crafty and a cunning animal.

And he went privately to the palace of the king ; saying, if it shall please the lord my master, to place me on his right hand, I will rout out faction from the face of the earth, and make his enemies in opposition his footstool. But the king was sorely displeased with the treachery of Carlo ; and requested him not to trouble himself in these matters. And Carlo was vexed to the heart at his disappointment : and he went and resigned his offices : and the husband, and all the kinsmen of a certain beautiful Duchess went out with him.

Now Carlo being dismissed from the secretaryship, returned again to dissipation

dissipation and gaming; and he resumed his Pharaoh bank at Brookes's, and sojourned with the Arm—d's and the Robinson's of the day, and he drove them about in phætons, himself being a second Phæton, vain and ambitious as the first. The rattling of the wheels filled the air of the streets, and the trampling of the horses was heard a-far. But his conduct pleased not the people; and those who had given up their places, began to repent.

And he went down to St. *Stephen's*, and spoke to exculpate his conduct: but his soul yet thirsted after the mammon of the treasury. And he poured forth abuse upon the ministry, and gave them the lie; saying, they fought but to enslave the people. And the ministry said, is not this the man Carlo who

who speaketh?—how speaketh the secretary the language of disappointment?

Now a certain general arose, to explain the cause of this sudden apostacy; and the people were astonished at his lawless ambition; and his hypocrisy stunk in the noses of all the members. And Edmund of St. Omers got up, and told a *long* story of a *wolf*, and a *girl in a little red ridinghood*; but the coughing, and hemming, and laughing, suffered him not to proceed.

And when the people understood these things, and that Carlo sought to be *premier*, they murmured and said, wherefore have we striven in vain, and disquieted ourselves in associations, resolutions, and petitions: behold all men are corrupt: there is not one that
doth

doth good: verily, they are all *mock patriots* throughout!

Nevertheless, Carlo persisted; and he called together his constituents, but few listened to the call: but he made unto them a long speech, telling them it should come to pass, that he, who called upon the name of *Carlo*, should have a place. But the people hissed, and the leading men of the committee, among whom was one * skilful in the cure of all disorders, resigned.

Then Carlo lifted up his *black face* to St. James's, and cried, saying, Sire, why persecutest thou me? And he went to Brookes's and wept: S——n the play-monger, and Jack T——d came to him and said, why weepeth the *Vox Populi*?—Have not we, thy faithful friends, resigned also?

* Mr. C——, apothecary.

And

And Carlo made answer and said,—
 “ Sh——n, thou art a man of consolation, and wit; the redness of thy face betokeneth the merriment of thy heart: but thy wit giveth me no relief: go now and write for me in the news-papers, for I am undone.

And T——d mingled his tears for the loss of the Ad——y; and there was weeping and wailing, and gnashing of teeth!—Then Carlo cried in a lamentable voice—“ Oh, republicanism! I have worshipped thee as my idol, as the promoter of anarchy; but I find thou art no more than the voice of the rabble, that signifieth nothing!

And there was among the great men of those days, a certain young patriot, just come from the schools, *unhackneyed in the ways of men*; nay, it was said, that he was also *unhack-*

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neyed in the ways of women: but his enemies propagated such calumny only to his derision: but there was *living* proof to the contrary in the buildings of Marybone: for a certain virgin who had formerly wove curious ornaments for the head, and the neck, and who lived among her beautiful and virtuous sisters in Tavistock-street, had captivated his fancy; and she had conceived, and borne him two children.

And this young man opposed Carlo; and with many and eloquent arguments did he exhort the people to resist his untoward and factious spirit: for ambition as a torrent had overwhelmed his reason, and corruption as a moth had eaten up his principles.— And when Carlo attempted to invade the great kingdoms of the East, then did this young man oppose him, and overcame him.

Thus endeth the political Annals of Carlo Khan.

C H A P. XII.

*Retaliation justified—A narrow escape—
Midnight reflections—lucky interrup-
tion—Characters and remarks.*

RETALIATION is a principle that however much we may disclaim against, we are generally ready enough to act upon. And Carlo thought, that considering the immense sums which the *children of Israel* had extorted from him, he might be justifiable in partaking some pleasure at their expence.

On one or two cases of particular emergency, he had been obliged, instead of giving audience at the *Jerusalem-chamber*, to wait upon Mr. *Ismael*,

in St. Mary-Axe; not only his rank, but the business on which he went insured him a hospitable reception from the Jew, who is probably one of the most courteous of his tribe.— At the first visit, Carlo's attention was insensibly drawn from the business of money to the more engaging commerce of love: for the bright black eyes of Mrs. Ishmael shot so many electric glances into his bosom, that she instantly kindled a fire which nothing but the enjoyment of her charms could ever allay.

Little opportunity was there of paying her any compliment on the score of her beauty, or giving the least manifestation of his growing passion, farther than by returning her languishing looks, which he did so expressively, that the Jewess could entertain no doubt

doubt of the influence of her charms : and Carlo departed that time, in the firm resolution, that if he paid Ishmael fifty per cent. for his money, he should at least regain twenty of it in the possession of his wife.

On his second visit, he was so fortunate as to find Mrs. Ishmael alone ; and not believing that her virtue was so romantic as to require a ten year's siege, or that her delicacy would be in the least shocked by a declaration which she had given him some encouragement to make, he boldly clasped her in his arms, and avowed the passion she had inspired him with, in such a manner as made Mrs. Ishmael imagine a speedy surrender would be attended with more substantial joy than playing the coquet, and protracting his happiness.—

As her husband was not expected home till very late, if at all that night, and often slept alone, Carlo was promised the participation of her bed; and the remainder of the evening was spent in such amorous conversations and preparatory fondnesses, as are infinitely more pleasing to the parties between whom they pass than the utmost exertions of the pen or the pencil can render them to the reader or the spectator.

It was midnight when Ishmael returned; and as ill-luck would have it, the influence of the wine he had been drinking gave birth to some wanton thoughts, and he determined to spend the night with his wife. On hearing him enter the door, she ran to stop him, threw her arms about his neck, and smiling, told him, with a
kiss,

kiss, that her sister, Mrs. L—— having called upon her in the evening, and being suddenly seized with a violent head-ach, had consented to partake of her bed, more readily indeed, as they had not expected him home for the night; she therefore earnestly intreated, that he would not disturb her.—A lucky idea had presented itself to Mrs. Ishmael, in the course of the evening, to make Carlo go to bed in a night-dress of her own, while his *blue and buff* uniform was carefully concealed: and this foresight had now a very happy consequence.

Mr. Ishmael was too polite to be angry at his disappointment, yet he could not bear that so handsome a woman as Mrs. L. should rob him of his place, without his being paid for his concession; he therefore insisted upon

upon a kiss as a reward for his indulgence. Mrs. Ishmael would most gladly have got rid of him without this risque of a discovery;—the hero in pinnners scorned to tremble but for the sake of his mistress; to whom, however, he left the matter, knowing that women are usually assisted by fortune or dexterity, whenever their conduct precipitates them into danger; he, therefore, hid himself in the pillows, and pulled the bed-cloaths over him, lest his chin should not be quite so soft as Mrs. L—'s. The husband threw himself upon *her* (as he imagined), hugged and embraced her as she lay covered up, struggled to get at her face, and pulled the bed-cloaths with all his might, while his wife endeavoured to tear him away; but both in vain; till he rose of himself, and
swore

swore that Mrs. L--- was the strongest woman he had ever attempted to kiss in his life. He, at last, relinquished the contest, not without threatening to take ample revenge upon her in the morning, when her head-ach was abated. The supposed fair-one durst not stand the encounter, but long before Ishmael's head had digested the fumes of the wine, Carlo had taken flight for Pall-mall; and when the Jew at last arose to drink his chocolate, he found the bird was flown, and himself robbed of his promised sweet revenge.

However propitious the night had been to love, the day was by no means equally so to wealth; and when he left Brookes's about the following midnight, he made his exit without a single shilling in his pocket. He wandered

dered away alone; the profound silence which reigned every where was interrupted only by the hollow accents of the watchmen, and the solemn sounds of the adjacent clocks; the moon shone unusually clear and bright, while his late misfortunes both in politics and play, threw him into a pensive mood, the surrounding silence and solitude accorded with and increased the sadness of his mind: he indulged the bitter remembrance of his numberless follies, and he was struck with the most melancholy presages of the miseries that attend the loss of both reputation and fortune.

He recollected his early years, and the fond indulgence, admiration, and predictions of his father: when he considered what he *was*, with what he *might have been*, and what it was probable

probable *he must one day be*, he was dissolved in anguish ; and his heart melted with sympathy for his fellow-subjects : but the people of England, and above all, the citizens of Westminster, were the chief objects of his compassion.

There is in mankind a disposition to imagine that they are more beloved and esteemed than they really are ; and this propensity is so strong in Carlo, that it is in reality one of the greatest, if not more properly the *very* greatest of all his foibles. This foolish conceit has been the cause of many misfortunes to himself and to his country. It was this that made him quarrel with Lord Boreas in the treasury. It was this that made him resign, on the most frivolous pretences his office of Secretary ; and through this weakness, or if the reader chuses a harsher name, through

through this absurd ambition, he fondly imagines the people of Great-Britain look up to him as their tutelar god: and this perhaps more than his necessities (for certainly the party whom he leads will alway protect him from actual want) is at the bottom of all the noise, and bustle, and strife, he has occasioned in the world.

The ardour and sensibility of his soul were now heightened by the power of crime, and he gave vent to his feelings in the following words:—

“Credulous and infatuated people,
“put not your confidence in a wretch
“distracted by a thousand cares, the
“fatal effects of the most desperate
“imprudence; a miserable vagabond,
“without a shilling in my purse! the
“sport of every passion! the slave of
“every Jew!

“Curse

“Curse on all sublunary enjoy-
 “ments! they leave us no money; they
 “leave us many a pain!”

While he was thus absorbed in his reverie, a chariot came rattling along driving with a sprightliness in concert with its lovely inmate: it was no other than the beautiful *Perdita*, who observing Carlo in the midst of his soliloquy, ordered her carriage to stop, accosting him in a tone of familiarity, and requesting him to leave his meditations, and join the converse of a lady, if he was not already too strongly attached to the Queen of night!

Carlo readily accepted the invitation, and entering the chariot, they drove away together to Berkley-square; in their way, she began to rally Carlo upon the whimsicality of his situation, and enquire what subjects had engrof-

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fed

fed the meditation from which she roused him : he readily confessed the condition of his mind, and concluded with exclaiming

Undone by fortune, and in love with thee !

“ Not so bad yet, Carlo ; replied the lovely fair-one : your whig friends will certainly come into power again, and the fault will be your own, if you do not obtain a situation to secure you from future evil—you may at least retire with a handsome pension, as many of your patriotic predecessors have done.

“ 'Tis true, you have been a very imprudent fellow ; and a source of numerous calamities to this island ; but your political errors have been in some degree atoned for by continued poverty, disappointment and mortification. Though
these

these might be rather the fault of your situation, than of your intention. For where is the poor devil, destitute of house or home, but would extricate himself, if he could, from want and contempt, even at the expence of faction and civil commotion :—or to speak in a language more familiar to your own ears, who that gets a bad hand at cards, but would wish to shuffle and cut them over again ?—Chace away melancholy, then, and assume your own jovial appearance.

“ Why, truly, answered Carlo, when you interrupted my reverie, my feelings were a little too much heightened by wine.—I am, to be sure, frequently in debt, and in difficulties ; but some avenue or other always opens by which I get out of them. Besides

P 2

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the lucky hits I sometimes meet with at play. I receive *douceurs* now and then from some worthy friends in the senate, who are violently afflicted with an itch for speaking, but whom nature never designed for orators ; being perfectly overpowered with the wit as well as the arguments of their adversaries, they would be constantly overwhelmed with their own dulness and confusion, if some friend did not rise occasionally in support of what they advanced ; and expatiate on their independence, their virtues, and even their abilities. Many a valuable bank-note have I received for assistance of this kind from a certain secretary of state*.
—My good friend, Admiral *Lee-shore*, often acknowledges the grateful fa-

* Probably Mr. Secretary T——d.

your

vour of my panegyricks, by means of the expreffive, though filent eloquence of the *yellow boys*. But there is a certain fwinehead †, to whom I am more indebted than to all the dull patriotic fpeakers put together. That fellow's gratitude is unbounded; though it fometimes requires the utmoft exertion of my abilities to put a plaufible face upon his d—d adfurdities, and cover his intolerable ignorance. I am now, on the whole, fo much reconciled to an extemporary kind of life, by the power of habit, that my precarious fubfiftence feldom gives me great uneafinefs.

By this time they had reached home, when they were both very much furprized to find Edmund St. Omer

* Not furely Sir J. M.

waiting there; a circumstance that somewhat chagrined his friend Carlo: who, however he might wish him for a colleague in the senate, thought his assistance unnecessary in the bed-chamber. After some conversation, Edmund withdrew; when to remove his pique, Perdita seriously told Carlo, that the visits of his friend were merely *en passant*, and that nothing ever passed incompatible with the purest virtue.

With respect to Edmund, continued she, though I admire the sublimity of his oratory, I neither look upon him as the man of business, nor the man of pleasure: for were I disposed to grant him the *last favour*, instead of coming to the *point*, he would read me a lecture upon the beautiful protuberance of my bosom, or the elegant

gant *variations of the curves* in my limbs *. And was he to be sent from Hyde-Park corner to St. Paul's, upon an affair of the most serious and important cast, he would set off *coolly* by the way of Kilburn, *trip* through the valley of West-end, *rise up* to the top of Hampstead-hill, return with *rapidity* through Kentish-town, and arrive *fainting* and *out of breath* to the end of his journey, having almost lost sight of it in his way thither. His mind is so profusely decked with daisies and butterflowers, that he would promise himself more satisfaction in that Arcadian walk than from dispatching his business.

Carlo laughed heartily at the lady's satire; but being somewhat fatigued

* Treatise on the Sublime and Beautiful.

with

with the preceding night's adventures, he seemed to prefer the soft pressure of her arms, to all the delights of conversation : and they retired to bed.

Now after all that has been said in favour of *love*, it seems at best to be a very unfocial passion :—it excludes all co-partnership : the orator could not bear to participate with his dear friend : the *pudor circa res venereas*, is inseparable from human nature, except among the newly discovered inhabitants of the South-seas. The lover perhaps is ashamed to indulge his passion before spectators, because he cannot invite them to partake with him ; nor even bear the idea that they should, at any future period, share in the affections of his beloved ; he therefore retires into some corner, like a dog who is afraid of losing his bone.

C H A P.

C H A P. XIII.

The amours of a juvenile Premier.

NOT as a *companion*, but as many readers may rather think, as a *contrast* to Carlo, we judge it not foreign to our purpose to take a flight glance at a youth whose character at present seems to stand high in the opinion of numbers.

Purity of manners, and decency of deportment are the indications by which he has so far acquired the esteem of the candid; he possesses an excellent and well-cultivated understanding, which displays itself in a strong and forcible eloquence; and notwithstanding his early celebrity,
which

which would have operated upon many as food to their natural vanity, yet he is said to remain modest, affable, and easy of access.

At school and college he laid a foundation of just and solid learning, which he embellished by a cultivation of the more elegant parts of science and literature; and upon these, joined to the exertions of solid sense and judgment, he endeavours to raise the superstructure of his future greatness; and render his fame, like his father's, immortal: though for his immortality he must be indebted solely to the exercise of good qualities, for he by no means possesses any of those shining talents, which are so conspicuous in his competitor Carlo, and enable a man to be greatly wicked.

The

The little attention he has hitherto shewn for the ladies, except in points of general politeness, has been artfully insinuated to the world as proceeding from insensibility of disposition, and a disregard to the sex, whose charms are indisputably the ornaments and the happiness of social life, a coldness that (*if* such a coldness *can* exist) deserves a harsher name than we are willing to characterize it by.

But as it would be unjust to denominate a man a *miser*, merely because he does not throw his gold away by handfuls, so it is equally uncandid to pronounce him cold to the feelings of love, from no other reason than that he does not dissipate his youthful powers in the arms of every wanton demi-rep; because allured by the sweets of a delicate, a faithful, and mutual attachment

ment, he scorns to associate with the meretricious herd, whose arms are alike open to all; or insult public decency with gallanting about a Perdita, an A——d, or any painted harlot of the day.

The following memoirs will give authenticity to, and explain these remarks.

Miss N—— was the only daughter of a very worthy officer, whose life was forfeited in the first engagement that took place between Great Britain and her American colonies.—The pay of an officer who has no private fortune, will never enable him to make much provision for a family; the utmost he could do was to give his daughter a very genteel, indeed a very elegant education. But whatever plausible arguments may be urged in vindication

cation of this general conduct of parents in respect, especially, of their daughters, it may be too truly affirmed, that half the deluded females who gain a precarious livelihood, by yielding the embraces of contaminating prostitution, owe their fall to this well-intended error; and they may justly exclaim with Polly in the Beggar's Opera,—“ Oh, mention not my *education*—for 'tis to *that* I owe my ruin.”

After the death of her father, the utmost that the surviving friends of Miss N—— could do for her was to place her in a situation where she might hope to gain her bread by the exertions of industry; and she was accordingly put apprentice to a milliner in Tavistock-street: a change of situation and of prospect, that howe-
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ever

ever dreary, poor Betsey acquiesced in with apparent composure, though not without many an inward conflict.

Betsey was at this time about seventeen years of age, tall, and genteelly made, but of a constitution rather delicate than robust, which was likely to be increased by the profession chosen for her. One of the disagreeable circumstances attending her change, was the company of the other girls in the shop, whose conversation and manners were by no means suited to her own: and she sighed for those elegancies, and that pleasing intercourse of polite life to which she had been accustomed, and in which her education enabled her to bear a part. She became therefore distinguished for a reservedness of disposition, which her companions attributed to pride, but in reality

reality sprung from a very different source.

One of her favourite amusements was walking abroad when ever opportunity permitted, and she often went alone : in one of her morning rambles, by the side of the Serpentine river in Hyde-park, she was observed by the gentleman who is the subject of this chapter. There was something in her appearance that strongly prejudiced him in her favour ; and he instantly determined to address her, and discover who she was. Betsey entertained no idea of his rank ; believing him only some student from the college, or some similar character ; as he had not then shaken off the rust and solemnity usually contracted in the university : she therefore scrupled not so much to permit him to accompany

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her

her to Tavistock-street, in the course of which she improved so much in his opinion, that he could not quit her 'till he obtained the promise of another interview; which took place; and a third succeeded:—while their mutual approbation of each other, insensibly grew into a passion which themselves were almost unconscious of. And it is somewhat singular that during their intimacy, though she was informed of the name of her admirer, yet she never once thought of his rank and situation, or that he filled one of the highest departments of government.

Love, indeed, by this time, was the only principle that governed Betsey's actions, or influenced her fair bosom: yet prudence sometimes suggested a wish that her lover would, and indeed a consciousness of propriety taught her
that

that he ought to make some avowal of his intentions: and one afternoon when they had taken a little jaunt to the neighbourhood of Windsor, she ventured to insinuate her expectation of an eclaircissement.

This was a subject for which the *premier* was by no means prepared, and to which he even could not answer by a *sullen silence*, as has sometimes been the case. Though so unhackneyed in the base arts of mankind, yet his soul was as fully susceptible of ambition as of love, and he could not think of taking a wife from behind a milliner's counter. Those contending passions for some time agitated his breast: at last he determined to discover himself, and see how far the insuperable bar to her wishes, which the superiority of his rank must create, would operate in in-

ducing her to yield upon easier terms. But, alas ! the love-stricken heart knows no such distinctions : and however Betsey's hopes might be dashed by the discovery of his pre-eminence, she still preserved pride sufficient to repel every attack which she thought injurious to her virtue.

The lover, though he experienced a very severe conflict upon this occasion, had recourse to that obstinacy which is said to have greatly assisted him on other emergencies ; and they parted that evening with very different sensations from whatever they had before felt : Poor Betsey spent a night of the most excruciating anxiety that can possibly be conceived. It was a hard struggle between love and honour ; but it was one of those contests in which the combatants are far from
being

being equally matched. It was not in fact, simply between *love* and *honour*; for by the gratification of her *love* she could also fully gratify her utmost stretch of vanity and ambition: by preserving her *honour*, she could only preserve her present servility. The premier had not only offered a genteel retreat, but also to secure her an independency, in case of those changes to which the human heart is so very liable. After many sighs, tears, and much reflection, the dispute ended—love, prevailed and honour kicked the beam.

Betsey consented to make him happy. She now resides in a neat habitation in the Marybone part of the town; living in a style of elegance and gentility to which, certainly, she was originally accustomed, but to the attainment

ment whereof she could have little prospect from the confines of Tavistock-street; and spending her hours, not in the *coarser ties* of *human laws*, but in that blissful union,

Where friendship full exerts her softest pow'r,
Perfect esteem enliven'd by desire
Ineffable, and sympathy of soul.

—— ——— For nought but *love*
Can answer *love*, and render bliss secure.

How far such a mode of enjoyment is preferable to the rank grossness of the *stews*—or how such a character can be charged with indifference to the charms of his fair countrymen—let the heart of sensibility determine!

C H A P. XIII.

The last—whether the best, the reader must determine.

SO greatly has Carlo's time been taken up for several months, that he has had little leisure for amorous pursuit. His attention to Asiatic wealth and honours has absorbed his soul, nor left a minute for soft revelry, with the almost-deserted Perdita, or with his yet greater favorite, the *respectable* Mrs. A——d.

The opposition which Carlo experienced from the young premier was much greater than he ever expected from his youth and little practice as a statesman

statesman ; and perhaps he was irritated on this occasion to go farther in the declaration of his sentiments respecting kingly power and the rights of the people, than he really intended. For since the late powerful attempts to take away the K—g's prerogative of naming his own ministers, he has been jocularly stiled *King Charles III.* and happening to appear in public some little time ago in a suit of *purple*, the colour which all sovereign princes wear for mourning, he was perceived by George S—n, who immediately went up to him, exclaiming,—“ God bless me Carlo, is the court in mourning ?—I humbly implore your pardon for having approached you in coloured cloaths ; but your Chamberlain neglected to give us notice.”—Carlo, though he is not easily abashed, walked
ed

ed off another way, not at all pleased with the joke.

And the same witty gentleman, when he was asked by a parliamentary friend, what he apprehended would be the consequence, when his M — y was informed of some very strong resolutions which his friend Carlo had moved for in a certain great assembly, — George very gravely answered, I can suppose it can be nothing else than this :—“ Gentlemen, the resolutions which you have brought *forward* to my *table*, I shall carry *backward* to my *closet* ; where the *uses* I shall make of them will depend more on the state of my *constitution*, than on yours.”

Among the many whimsicalities of Carlo, the very humiliating letter he sent the Dutch, during the short æra of his political government, will for
ever

ever mark that period ; and when he was questioned by some of his friends how he could so far forget himself as to be the author of such an epistle, “ Pshaw, hang it, says Carlo, turning it off with a laugh, one must be civil to one’s own relations—consider I am sprung from the family of *Holland*.”

The present political situation of our hero is such an instance of the mutability of human affairs, as very few periods can afford :—from being perfectly obnoxious to every man of honour and consistency in the kingdom, on account of his coalition with Lord Boreas, he has in general recovered the good opinion of the people ! Are the people, or is Carlo changed !—the majority against him has been reduced by the hand of legerdemain, and like a tennis-ball, he seems to rise higher by the
the

the rebound from his depression. But what cannot eloquence, beauty, and perseverance atchieve?—Or who can resist the heart-piercing eyes of the enchanting Duchefs, when a soft prefs of the hand, ſhe intreats you to vote in the cauſe of liberty, and in behalf of her own favourite!—Who can deny the condeſcenſion of our nobility.—Or, begging pardon for the *odious* compariſon, could Perdita or the Armſtead do *more*?—They cannot *now*, for the times are ſadly altered with *them* too, drive about in their coaches, but they trudge away on foot, and thoſe *ladies of the people* uſe every exertion to ſupport the *man of the people*. Not that Carlo can at preſent pay much attention to this inferior race of fair-ones: for the ſuperior pleaſure he muſt now taſte, in being the attracting pole-ſtar,

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the *ursa major* of the modish *terra-celestial* hemisphere, where he is daily furrounded by the brightest beauties, the earth-treading stars of our world, must amply gratify his vanity, and make him, while feasting on nectar and ambrosia, disdain to feed on carrion.

In fact, the different situations of the *demi-reps* of ancient and those of modern days, when in the decline of life might afford matter of curious remark : the Floras, Lais, &c. not only lived in splendor and gait, but left considerable sums of money behind them ; the former lady leaving an ample legacy to the Roman senate for the institution of an annual festival under the name of *Florales* : and in England, some of the cotemporaries of Fanny Murray and Kitty Fisher accumulated sufficient

sufficient to purchase annuities of 200*l.* or 300*l.* a year. Something, perhaps, may be owing to the increased extravagance of the times, which has certainly made dreadful havoc in Cytheria; and many of the unhappy Cleopatra's of the day are literally reduced to the comic situation of *Love's LAST shift*, but without the benefits which heretofore arose from the *fools of fashion*!

F I N I S.

CARLOTTA

1841
The first of the year
was a very cold one
and the snow lay
on the ground for
many days. The
winter was very
severe and the
people suffered
much. The
spring was very
warm and the
crops grew well.
The summer was
very hot and the
crops were
very good. The
autumn was very
cold and the
crops were
very good.

1841

Bibl. erot.
Fr. Krenneri.

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The amours of Karlo Khan

London 1784

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